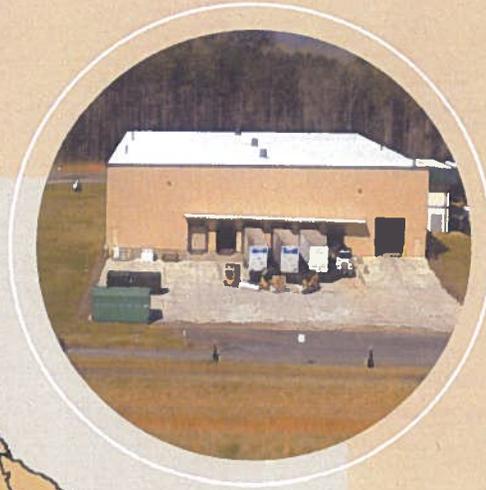
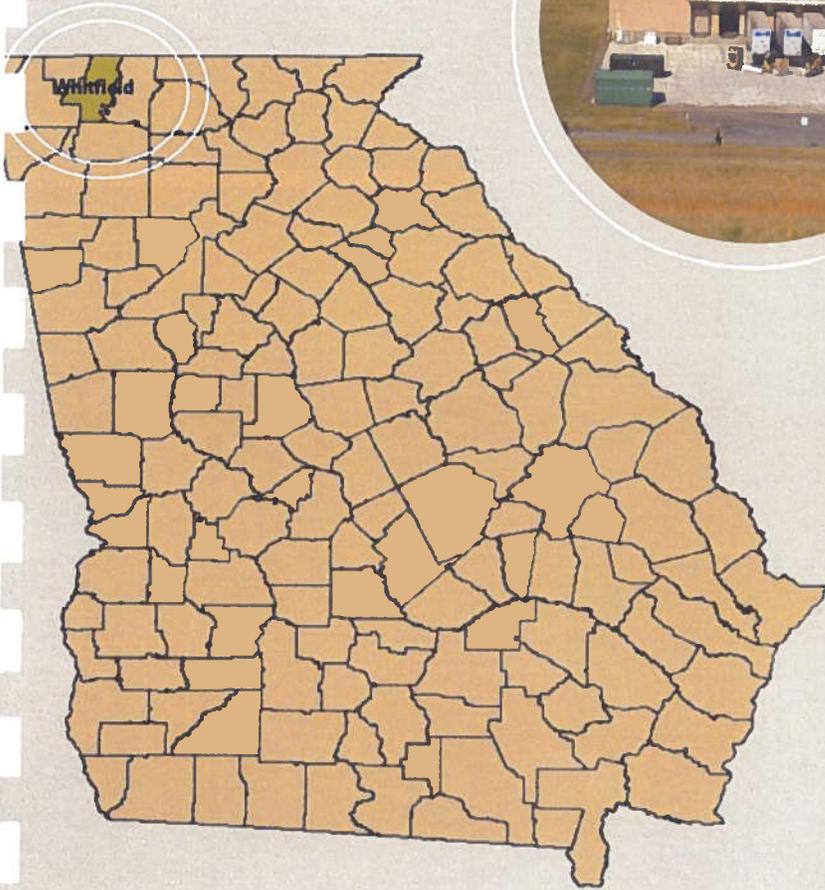


# 2008-2018 SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT PLAN UPDATE



Prepared by:  
Dalton-Whitfield  
Regional Solid Waste  
Management Authority

Prepared for:  
Whitfield County  
City of Dalton  
City of Cohutta  
City of Varnell  
City of Tunnel Hill

October 2008

R·W·BEC



2008-2018

**SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT PLAN UPDATE**  
**Dalton-Whitfield Regional Solid Waste Management**  
**Authority**

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This report has been prepared for the use of the client for the specific purposes identified in the report. The conclusions, observations and recommendations contained herein attributed to R. W. Beck, Inc. (R. W. Beck) constitute the opinions of R. W. Beck. To the extent that statements, information and opinions provided by the client or others have been used in the preparation of this report, R. W. Beck has relied upon the same to be accurate, and for which no assurances are intended and no representations or warranties are made. R. W. Beck makes no certification and gives no assurances except as explicitly set forth in this report.

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## EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

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Welcome to the 2008-2018 Solid Waste Management Plan Update (the “Plan”) for Whitfield County and the Cities of Dalton, Cohutta, Varnell and Tunnel Hill. Per state requirements, this Plan covers the ten-year period from November 1, 2008 through October 31, 2018.

The County and the four cities have a history of cooperating to manage solid waste. In 1994, the City of Dalton and Whitfield County formed the Dalton-Whitfield Regional Solid Waste Management Authority (DWRSWMA) to manage their solid waste. Part of the responsibility of the DWRSWMA is to prepare solid waste planning documents such as this one. The format of the Plan is dictated by State Minimum Planning Standards that require that the plan include a description of the waste to be managed and address five waste management “elements”. These elements are: waste reduction, collection, disposal, land limitation, and public education.

### Amount of Waste

According to State records, a total of 165,568 tons were reportedly disposed in municipal solid waste (MSW) landfills from Whitfield County in 2006.<sup>1</sup> In addition to the waste disposed in MSW landfills, EPD records indicate that 18,950 tons of waste (baled carpet) was disposed in DWRSWMA’s industrial waste balefill from Whitfield County in 2006. The significant majority of the MSW disposed in 2006, 131,812 tons, was disposed in the DWRSWMA MSW Landfill. Table ES-1 shows where municipal solid waste generated in Whitfield County was disposed.

**Table ES-1**  
**MSW Landfills Reporting Solid Waste from Whitfield County**  
**2006**

Landfill Location	Tons
Whitfield County, GA	131,812
Murray County, GA	21,846
Gordon County, GA	11,214
Bradley County, TN	697
<b>Total</b>	<b>165,568</b>

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<sup>1</sup> The amount disposed in MSW Landfills was much lower than the 218,256 tons reported to the State in 2005 which could be due to errors in reporting as well as the success of waste reduction efforts.

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A total of 165,568 tons disposed in 2006 is equivalent to 9.76 pounds per person day, higher than the reported state average in FY2004 (the most recent year for which data are available) of 7.52 pounds per person per day. This is likely the case because a significant amount of the material disposed from Whitfield County, at least in the DWRSWMA landfill, is industrial waste and C&D debris. If these items are excluded, then the MSW disposal rate is estimated to be 7.73 pounds per person per day, very close to the State average. According to the revised 1997 DWRSWMA Solid Waste Management Plan Update, the per capita disposal rate for all solid waste in 1995 was 10.7 pounds per capita per day. The apparent decrease in per capita disposal rate between 1995 and 2006 is likely due to the efforts that the DWRSWMA has taken to divert waste, especially carpet-related waste, from its MSW landfill and into recovery programs and the balefill.

Planning for the future requires that the DWRSWMA project the amount of waste that will be generated by residents and businesses in Whitfield County and the cities. Although there are several projection scenarios considered in Section 2 of this Plan, the actual projections are tied to the anticipated growth in the carpet industry since historic data shows that this is the most reliable indicator of MSW received at the DWRSWMA landfill. Table ES-2 shows disposal projections under two scenarios 1) tons disposed increases with anticipated growth in the carpet industry and 2) waste reduction efforts offset increases attributable to growth in the carpet industry resulting in constant disposal tonnage for the ten-year planning period. When projections of MSW are tied directly to growth in the carpet industry, the result is that the DWRSWMA estimates that 2,447,800 tons of MSW are disposed over the ten-year planning period. Under the scenario where waste reduction efforts offset increases attributable to growth in the carpet industry, an average annual tonnage of 192,162 tons per year generated for disposal in MSW landfills is projected, or 1,921,620 tons over the ten-year planning period.

**Table ES-2  
Two Scenarios of Projected Amount of Waste Disposed in MSW Landfills  
2008 – 2018**

Year	Disposal Rates Increase with Growth in the Carpet Industry (Tons)	Average of 2005 and 2006 Tonnage Continues
2008 <sup>1</sup>	33,311	32,027
2009	207,044	192,162
2010	214,911	192,162
2011	223,078	192,162
2012	231,555	192,162
2013	240,354	192,162
2014	249,488	192,162
2015	258,968	192,162
2016	268,809	192,162
2017	279,024	192,162
2018 <sup>2</sup>	241,259	160,135
<b>Total</b>	<b>2,447,800</b>	<b>1,921,620</b>

<sup>1</sup> From October 31 – December 31, 2008

<sup>2</sup> From January 1 – October 31, 2018

## Current Programs

The DWRSWMA, Whitfield County, and the cities of Dalton, Cohutta, Varnell, and Tunnel Hill have an extensive solid waste management system including programs, facilities, and policies for waste reduction, collection, disposal, land limitation, and public education. These are summarized below but included in more detail in the remaining Sections of the Plan.

## Waste Reduction

The DWRSWMA, the City of Dalton, and Keep Dalton-Whitfield Beautiful, Inc. (KDWB) operate programs to encourage waste reduction throughout the County, including source reduction, reuse, recycling, and composting programs. The City of Dalton operates the only residential curbside recycling program in the County although some other residents and businesses can contract with a private hauler for curbside collection of recyclables. All citizens can deliver their recyclables to one of the DWRSWMA's four convenience centers and the DWRSWMA operates drop-off locations for recyclables at four schools, at a local industry, and in the downtown Dalton business district. The DWRSWMA operates a Materials Recovery Facility (MRF) at its Landfill where materials from the curbside program, convenience centers, and other generators are processed. A total of 8,348 tons were collected through the

## **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

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City of Dalton and DWRSWMA programs. Most of this was carpet waste from industrial and post-consumer sources.

The DWRSWMA mulches leaves collected by the City of Dalton Department of Public Works and yard trimmings delivered by residents of the cities and unincorporated County to the convenience centers using a mobile tub grinder which operates at one of the convenience centers. A total of 10,172 tons of material was diverted from disposal in 2006 through this program. Most of this was used as a bulking agent to compost the sludge generated by Dalton Utilities. The DWRSWMA also operates a permanent household hazardous waste facility to keep items like paint and pesticides out of the MSW landfill. In 2008, the DWRSWMA began operation of a landfill gas to energy system.

### **Collection**

Residential waste is collected by municipal crews in the Cities of Dalton, Cohutta, and Varnell. There is no municipal refuse collection in Tunnel Hill or the unincorporated County. In these locations, individual residents can contract with private haulers that are permitted by the DWRSWMA to operate in the County or deliver their waste to one of the four convenience centers. The City of Dalton also collects leaf and brush, bulky items, and recyclables from residents. None of the other cities provide collection of these items but residents can deliver them to the convenience centers. Businesses, industries, and institutions contract with permitted private collectors for collection of solid waste or haul their waste directly to the landfill.

### **Disposal**

Currently, the DWRSWMA operates the only two active solid waste disposal facilities in the County, including one Subtitle D landfill and one industrial landfill. The Old Dixie Municipal Solid Waste Landfill, EPD permit number 155-047D(SL), is the primary disposal location for MSW and construction and demolition debris generated in the County. The landfill receives approximately 451 tons of MSW per day,<sup>2</sup> and the permitted area is expected to reach capacity in the year 2045 at the current disposal rate. In 2007, the tip fee for waste was \$31.65 per ton (although the rate is variable depending on the volume or contracted rates). The industrial landfill, permit number 155-048D(LI), is an unlined facility accepting only baled carpet waste. Putting this material here instead of in the lined MSW facility reduces construction costs, cover requirements, and equipment maintenance and allows for potential future resource recovery of the baled carpet. The current phase is a 29-acre site.

Based on disposal reports provided to EPD from solid waste disposal facilities, 20 percent of the MSW collected in Whitfield County was disposed in three other municipal solid waste landfills in 2006, a 13 percent increase over 2005. Also, DWRSWMA staff has reported anecdotally that waste is disposed at the Athens (TN) Landfill directly via Ocoee Environmental Services and at the Sand Valley Landfill

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<sup>2</sup> Source: Remaining MSW Capacity Report, September 2007.

(AL) via Allied Waste who drops Whitfield County waste off at their Collinsville, Tennessee transfer station before it is hauled to Alabama for disposal.

Both the City of Dalton and Whitfield County has ordinances in place requiring that all permitted haulers operating within their borders deliver all solid waste to a designated facility. Currently, the designated facilities are the DWRSWMA MSW and industrial landfills. Thus, the projections assume that throughout the planning periods, all MSW will be delivered to these facilities. As a result, it is projected that an average of 192,162 tons will be disposed in the DWRSWMA landfill each year, with any increase in waste resulting from an increase in population and economic activity being offset by increased waste reduction efforts. The result is that an estimated 1,921,620 tons of waste is projected to be disposed by Whitfield County at the DWRSWMA landfill during the planning period assuming that all Whitfield County waste is delivered to this facility. Based on the most recent capacity report for the Landfill, prepared in September 2007, which indicated that 8,307,638 cubic yards of permitted airspace remained in the Authority's Landfill, the MSW landfill has capacity for an additional 5,192,274 tons of waste. Thus, the DWRSWMA Landfill has more than enough capacity to handle all the MSW disposed from Whitfield County through the planning period.

### **Land Limitation**

The DWRSWMA, the County, and the cities use State guidelines, local zoning requirements, and local policy to identify sites where solid waste handling facilities can be sited and requirements for design and operation of these sites. Federal and State policies contain restrictions related to natural features such as floodplains, wetlands, water supply watersheds, groundwater recharge areas, river corridors, protected mountains, fault zones, seismic zones, and unstable areas. These restrictions, and a map indicating the siting impact in the County, are included in Section 6. In addition, the County and the cities have zoning ordinances that restrict the siting of solid waste handling facilities to particular districts as a special use. Other land uses that impact the siting, design, and operation of solid waste handling facilities include natural historical sites, archaeological sites, surface water intakes, airports, other landfills, political boundaries, and private recreational camps. Section 6 identifies the restrictions on solid waste handling facilities located near these land uses.

In addition to these environmental, zoning, and other land use requirements, no proposed solid waste handling facility or facility expansion can be sited in Whitfield County without a letter from the County Commission or within municipal boundaries, the governing body of the municipality, stating that the proposed facility is consistent with this Plan. Section 6 lays out a detailed procedure that must be followed to get a written determination as to whether a proposed facility is consistent with this Plan.

### **Public Education**

The DWRSWMA houses the local Keep America Beautiful affiliate, Keep Dalton-Whitfield Beautiful, Inc., which is the primary conduit for solid waste public

## **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

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education in Whitfield County. KDWB has access to state and national resources and networking opportunities as an affiliate of Keep Georgia Beautiful, under the Georgia Department of Community Affairs, and as a certified Keep America Beautiful affiliate. KDWB receives some funding through sponsorship donations, but DWRSWMA funds the KDWB staff, programs and educational materials.

With the assistance of KDWB, the DWRSWMA educates students, the general public, and local businesses and industry about solid waste management using brochures, flyers, a website, Power Point presentations, local radio and television spots. A state-of-the-art hands-on education classroom is located on the second floor of the MRF and provides visiting students, garden clubs, civic groups, etc. the opportunity to view the daily operations of a recycling center. In addition to the activities of KDWB, the City of Dalton conducts public education programs to encourage proper participation in their curbside recycling program.

The DWRSWMA involves the public in making decisions about solid waste management. The Authority formed a Solid Waste Advisory Committee (SWAC) to assist in the update of this Plan. The SWAC was comprised of representatives from each of the local governments, generating businesses, education centers, applicable special interest groups and general citizenry. The SWAC was created to be a sounding board for the Authority's main ideas and provided much insight on local solid waste issues.

## **Goals and Needs**

From the inventory and assessment of current programs, facilities, and policies, the DWRSWMA and the SWAC developed a set of goals and needs for each element as required by the State's Minimum Planning Standards. These goals and needs are listed in Table ES-3 below.

**Table ES-3  
Solid Waste Management Goals and Needs  
Dalton-Whitfield Regional Solid Waste Management Authority (DWRSWMA)**

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**WASTE REDUCTION**

**Goal:** To maintain a constant annual disposal tonnage over the planning period despite an expected increase in population and industrial activity.

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**Needs**

- Encourage participation in existing recycling programs.
- Evaluate opportunities to expand residential recycling.
- Work with schools, governments, and other institutions to expand recycling opportunities.
- Work with businesses to expand commercial and industrial waste reduction opportunities.

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**COLLECTION**

**Goal:** To provide consistent and universal access to collection services for solid waste to all citizens in Whitfield County.

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**Needs**

- Ensure that the DWRSWMA has sufficient oversight of collection to ensure solid waste management goals are met and that collection protects public health and the environment.
- Offer curbside collection in incorporated areas.
- Periodically evaluate the need for curbside collection in other areas of the County.
- Ensure convenience centers can handle anticipated tonnages/traffic in a cost-effective manner.

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**DISPOSAL**

**Goal:** To ensure that solid waste handling facilities have capacity to handle all solid waste generated in the County, do not negatively impact the natural environment or public health, and are consistent with the Plan.

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**Needs**

- Divert recyclables, baled carpet, and other materials, when feasible, from the Subtitle D landfill to maximize landfill life.
- Expand existing landfill as needed to ensure sufficient capacity.
- Monitor solid waste handling facilities located in the County to ensure they are operated in a manner that protects public health and the environment and are consistent with the Plan
- Ensure that solid waste generated in Whitfield County is managed in Whitfield County.
- Ensure revenues fully cover the costs of an integrated solid waste management system.

## EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

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### LAND LIMITATION

**Goal:** To ensure that proposed solid waste handling facilities and expansions are consistent with environmental requirements, local land use plans, and this Solid Waste Management Plan Update

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#### Needs

- Ensure that proposed facilities or facility expansions comply with State and local environmental siting requirements.
  - Ensure that all proposed solid waste handling facilities or facility expansions follow the procedure for approval established in this Plan.
- 

### PUBLIC EDUCATION AND INFORMATION

**Goal:** To ensure that all citizens of the County and cities have access to information about waste reduction and solid waste management.

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#### Needs

- Provide resources for public education activities.
  - Expand avenues for education of the residential, commercial and industrial sectors.
  - Ensure that residents and businesses understand how to comply with federal, state, and local solid waste management policies.
- 

## Implementation Strategy

The implementation strategy identifies the activities that the DWRSWMA will undertake to meet the goals and needs identified over the next ten-years, from November 1, 2008 through October 31, 2018. Each activity and the details of implementation (schedule, responsible party, cost, etc.) is included in Table ES-4. Activities in the first five years constitute the Short Term Work Program. Because the DWRSWMA is already operating a large number of facilities and programs, many of the activities to be implemented over the ten-year planning period involve continuation of existing facilities and programs. However, some of the key new initiatives include expansion of recycling programs, enforcement of collector permit requirements, and operation of a landfill gas recovery system.

## Source of Funds

In 2006, approximately 79 percent of the DWRSWMA's costs were operating expenses and 21 percent were deposits to funds for future landfill development, closure and post-closure care and other special projects. In order to cover the costs for this system, the DWRSWMA currently charges a per ton user fee for all waste delivered to disposal facilities. This allows the DWRSWMA to fund the current system with an enterprise fund, rather than placing the burden on the tax base. Revenues are also generated from the sales of recyclables, brush/mulch loading fees and the sale of wetlands credits. Starting in 2008, revenue will also be generated by the sale of the

landfill's methane gas. The DWRSWMA will continue to fund all its programs through these sources of revenues generated by operations.

## **Plan Updates and Amendments**

The implementation strategy will be reviewed on an annual basis as the County and Cities prepare their Annual Solid Waste Management Survey and Full Cost Report to submit to the Georgia Department of Community Affairs. The County and Cities will take this opportunity to determine if the goals or needs of the County and Cities have changed in a way that would require changes to the implementation strategy.

In addition, the County and Cities will update the Short Term Work Program, as required, by October 31, 2013, and will update and adopt this Plan by October 31, 2018.



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**Table ES-4  
Implementation Strategy FY 2008- 2018**

Activity	Waste Reduction										Responsible Party	Est. Annual Cost (\$)	Funding Source
	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017			
Continue to collect recyclables at the curb	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	(1)	City general fund
Explore collection of recyclables at the curb in other cities and the unincorporated county.		X		X			X					N/A	N/A
Continue to offer collection of recyclables at convenience centers for all County residents.	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	762,000 <sup>(2)</sup>	Enterprise Fund, County general fund <sup>(3)</sup>
Continue to offer drop-off collection of recyclables at four schools (one in City of Dalton and three in unincorporated County).	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	Included in other costs	Enterprise Fund
Continue to offer drop-off collection of recyclables in the Downtown Development District.	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	Included in other costs	Enterprise Fund
Encourage participation in existing recycling programs through continued education and promotion.	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	Included in KDWB Budget	Enterprise Fund
Evaluate partnering with additional schools and colleges to site recycling containers and implement as opportunities become available.	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	N/A	N/A

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Activity	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	Responsible Party	Est. Annual Cost (\$)	Funding Source
Evaluate expansion of commercial recycling programs in downtown Dalton, at major retailers, malls, and hotels, and other businesses as appropriate. Implement as opportunities become available.	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	DWRSWMA	N/A	N/A
Evaluate the opportunity to collect residential recyclables at locations other than curbside and convenience centers (e.g., multi-family residences, supermarkets) and implement, as appropriate.	X	X										DWRSWMA	N/A	N/A
Use containers provided through the State's Away from Home Recycling grant program, offer collection of recyclables at public venues.	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	DWRSWMA, City and County Rec. and other Depts.	Included in other costs	DCA provides containers, Enterprise Funds
Provide technical assistance and promotional material to schools, other institutions, businesses, and industry to assist them to initiate and expand source reduction, reuse, and recycling programs.	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	DWRSWMA	Included in KDWB Budget	Enterprise funds
Continue to process residential, commercial, and industrial recyclables at the DWRSWMA MRF.	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	DWRSWMA	430,000	Enterprise funds
Continue to expand the materials sent to market from the MRF as markets are identified.	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	DWRSWMA	N/A	N/A
Continue to offer financial incentives for business and industry that deliver loads to the Landfill that can be diverted to the balefill or MRF.	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	DWRSWMA	N/A	N/A
Continue developing infrastructure to divert post-consumer carpet.	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	DWRSWMA	Included in MRF budget	Enterprise funds, state grants
Mulch yard trimmings delivered to convenience centers and disposal locations.	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	DWRSWMA	63,000	Enterprise Funds

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Activity	Collection											Responsible Party	Est. Annual Cost (\$)	Funding Source		
	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018					
Update and enforce permit requirements for all Collectors of solid waste in the County.	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	DWRSWMA, County and Cities	To be determined	Fines and penalties
Pursue the development of an Environmental Court that can focus on prosecuting violations of related ordinances.		X												DWRSWMA, County and Cities	To be determined	Fines and penalties
Continue current residential collection programs at the source.	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	City of Dalton, City of Cohutta, City of Varnell	(1)	Each City's general fund
Continue operating convenience centers for solid waste and recyclables.	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	DWRSWMA	762,000 <sup>(2)</sup>	Enterprise Fund, County general fund <sup>(2)</sup>
Evaluate the number, location, hours, traffic, and costs at each of the convenience centers (especially as the lease on the MLK facility expires) to determine if they meet local needs. Adjust as needed.	X													DWRSWMA	N/A	N/A
Continue commercial and industrial collection through permitted collectors that contract directly with businesses.	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	DWRSWMA	Contract-dependent	Generator's budget
Evaluate the need for franchises or contracts for collection in the unincorporated County to ensure the proper management of solid waste generated in the County. Implement as needed.		X												DWRSWMA	N/A	N/A
Continue to operate permanent HHW collection facility.	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	DWRSWMA	23,000	Enterprise Funds

**EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

Activity	Disposal											Responsible Party	Est. Annual Cost (\$)	Funding Source
	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018			
Enforce requirement that all solid waste collected in the County is delivered to a solid waste handling facility designated by the DWRSWMA.	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	DWRSWMA, County and Cities	N/A	N/A
Review all proposals for solid waste handling facilities to be located in the County and recommend approval or rejection to the appropriate elected bodies.	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	DWRSWMA	N/A	N/A
Continue to operate the waste acceptance program to ensure that only wastes that can be properly handled at a Subtitle D landfill are disposed at the DWRSWMA Landfill.	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	DWRSWMA	Included in Landfill Budget	Enterprise Funds
Continue to close cells consistent with regulatory requirements as they are filled.	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	DWRSWMA	190,000 <sup>4</sup>	Enterprise Fund deposits into escrow account for closure
Continue to expand permitted landfill capacity as required to maintain adequate disposal capacity to meet all Whitfield County's disposal needs.	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	DWRSWMA	38,000 <sup>5</sup>	Enterprise Fund deposits into escrow account for development
Continue to pursue approval for alternative closure cap design.		X	X									DWRSWMA	N/A	N/A
Continue to purchase additional land as needed for borrow material, buffer areas, wetlands mitigation and green space conservation.	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	DWRSWMA	<sup>6</sup>	Escrow account for development
Construct and operate the landfill gas recovery system.	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	DWRSWMA	530,000 <sup>7</sup>	Enterprise Funds, including revenue from landfill gas

## EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Activity	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	Responsible Party	Est. Annual Cost (\$)	Funding Source
Evaluate alternative management approaches for C&D debris.	X		X		X		X		X			DWRSWMA	50,000 for one-time study	Enterprise funds
Consider variable (Pay as You Throw) rates for residents		X					X					DWRSWMA, County and Cities	N/A	N/A
Continue to support DWRSWMA costs with Enterprise Funds generated through user fees and other sources of revenues generated by DWRSWMA operations.	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	DWRSWMA	N/A	N/A
Continue to diversify the sources of revenue that help to fund the Authority's solid waste management programs.	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	DWRSWMA	N/A	N/A
Update financial analysis to determine impacts of changes in waste stream, user fees, operating practices, amounts and sources of revenues etc.	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	DWRSWMA	15,000	Enterprise Fund
<b>Land Limitation</b>														
Keep all information about natural environmental limitations, zoning, and land use information updated and available.	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	DWRSWMA, GA EPD, County and Cities	N/A	N/A
Inform and educate potential facility developers about siting and operational requirements and the procedures to demonstrate consistency with this Plan.	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	DWRSWMA, County and Cities	N/A	N/A
Consult land limitation maps and zoning ordinances and maps when facility is proposed to ensure proper siting of solid waste management facilities.	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	DWRSWMA, County and Cities	N/A	N/A
Review all proposed solid waste handling facilities or facility expansions for consistency with this Plan.	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	DWRSWMA	N/A	N/A

**EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

Activity	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	Responsible Party	Est. Annual Cost (\$)	Funding Source
	<b>Education and Public Involvement</b>													
Enforce the requirement that no solid waste handling facility be sited in the County unless it is included in this Plan using the procedures described herein.	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	DWRSWMA, County and Cities	N/A	N/A
Continue funding activities of KDWB.	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	DWRSWMA	15,000	Enterprise Funds
Update the website (dwsa.org) and printed materials regularly.	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	KDWB	Included in KDWB Budget	Enterprise Funds
Continue to promote source reduction, reuse, recycling, and composting in schools, on the website, at community events, and in other forums to increase participation in programs.	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	DWRSWMA, KDWB, County and Cities	Included in KDWB Budget	Enterprise Funds, County and City budgets
Continue to work with schools to promote waste reduction and recycling and to teach children about solid waste management issues.	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	KDWB	Included in KDWB Budget	Enterprise Funds
Continue to offer tours at DWRSWMA facilities	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	KDWB, DWRSWMA	N/A	N/A
Expand promotional material to inform public about innovative programs of the DWRSWMA such as the wetlands mitigation bank and the landfill gas recovery program.	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	KDWB, DWRSWMA	Included in KDWB Budget	Enterprise Funds
Develop new public education and informational materials as new audiences are identified and new programs are initiated.	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	KDWB, DWRSWMA	Included in KDWB Budget	Enterprise Funds
Maintain involvement of advisory groups in developing solid waste management policy and programs.	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	DWRSWMA	N/A	N/A

## EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Activity	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	Responsible Party	Est. Annual Cost (\$)	Funding Source
Include information about federal, state, and local solid waste management policies in public education and informational materials.	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	KDWB, DWRSWMA	Included in KDWB Budget	Enterprise Funds
Pursue the development of an Environmental Court that can focus on prosecuting violations of related ordinances.		X	X									DWRSWMA, County and Cities	To be determined	Fines and penalties

DWRSWMA = Dalton-Whitfield Regional Solid Waste Management Authority  
 KDWB = Keep Dalton-Whitfield Beautiful, Inc.

- (1) Total of \$935,000 for City of Dalton for collection of both MSW and recyclables.
- (2) This amount covers collection of recyclables as well as collection and disposal of MSW.
- (3) The Enterprise Fund covers the cost of operating the convenience centers. The County pays for the cost of disposal of the MSW collected at the convenience centers.
- (4) The financial analysis conducted for the DWRSWMA each year indicates that an average of \$190,000 (in 2007 \$) should be deposited in the escrow account from the Enterprise Fund for closure each year to ensure that sufficient funds are available to cover costs as they are incurred.
- (5) The financial analysis conducted for the DWRSWMA each year indicates that an average of \$38,000 (in 2007 \$) should be deposited in the escrow account from the Enterprise Fund for cell development each year to ensure that sufficient funds are available to cover costs as they are incurred.
- (6) Accounts for one planned land purchase in 2008. Additional acquisitions may occur over the planning period, but costs are unknown at this time.
- (7) Averaged over 15 years according to the Authority's Pro-forma.



# Section 1 INTRODUCTION

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## 1.1 Background

This document is the Plan for Whitfield County and the Cities of Dalton, Cohutta, Varnell and Tunnel Hill as prepared by the Dalton-Whitfield Regional Solid Waste Management Authority (DWRSWMA). This Plan update was written to comply with Chapter 110-4-3 of the Rules of the Georgia Department of Community Affairs, Minimum Planning Standards and Procedures for Solid Waste Management, as revised in 2004. It addresses the five core planning elements specified by the Minimum Planning Standards and Procedures, including:

- Waste Reduction;
- Collection;
- Disposal;
- Land Limitation; and
- Education and Public Involvement.

In addition, the Plan includes a waste disposal stream analysis and an implementation strategy.

This Plan updates the last DWRSWMA Solid Waste Management Plan Update, adopted in October 1997, and the Five-Year Short-Term Work Program Update adopted in 2002. This Plan covers the ten-year planning period between November 1, 2008 and October 31, 2018.

## 1.2 Responsibility for the Plan

The cities of Dalton, Cohutta, Tunnel Hill, and Varnell and Whitfield County have a history of cooperating to manage solid waste. In the late 1970s, the City of Dalton and Whitfield County developed a joint solid management department in response to common disposal needs. The agreement originally allowed for operation of a joint disposal facility but over the years went further to cover other solid waste management programs.

In December 1994, the City of Dalton and Whitfield County created the DWRSWMA to administer solid waste management programs. The Authority Board governs the activities of the DWRSWMA and is comprised of two County Commissioners, two City Council members, and one private representative selected by the other four. The DWRSWMA is responsible for administration of the County's solid waste

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## Section 1

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management programs, including solid waste management planning, development and operation of processing and disposal facilities, development and operation of drop-off (convenience) centers for household trash, yard waste and recyclables, and securing and expending funds to cover all costs associated with these activities.

The Authority also is responsible for preparing this Plan with input from the County, the cities, and other entities involved in solid waste management in Whitfield County. The DWRSWMA prepared this Plan with the assistance of R. W. Beck, Inc.

The person responsible for this update to the Dalton-Whitfield Regional Solid Waste Management Authority Plan is:

Mr. Norman Barashick  
Executive Director  
4350 Gazaway Road  
Dalton, GA 30722  
Phone: (706) 277-2545  
Fax: (706) 277-2546  
E-Mail: [nbarashick@dswa.org](mailto:nbarashick@dswa.org)

Any questions regarding the Plan or requests for additional information can be directed to Mr. Barashick.

### 1.2.1 Public Involvement During the Planning Process

The DWRSWMA drew on local perspectives on solid waste management issues by creating a Solid Waste Advisory Committee (SWAC) to provide input during the course of this planning process. The SWAC was comprised of representatives from each of the local governments, generating businesses, education centers, applicable special interest groups and general citizenry. The SWAC was created to provide information and insight on local solid waste issues and priorities during the development of the Plan. They met four times during the development of the Plan.

In addition to the involvement of the SWAC, the DWRSWMA held two public hearings while preparing this Plan. The initial public hearing was held on September 17, 2007 to obtain public input early in the planning process. The County then held the final public hearing on December 6, 2007 to obtain public comment on the draft Plan. To encourage public review of the Plan, the draft document was made available to the public prior to the second public hearing.

### 1.3 Planning Area Defined

Whitfield County is comprised of approximately 186,527 acres of land in the northwest part of Georgia. There are four incorporated areas in the County: Dalton, Tunnel Hill, Cohutta, and Varnell. Dalton, the county seat and primary market center, is centrally located and is the largest municipality. Dalton's economy shifted in the early 1900s from agriculture to textiles and then to mechanized tufted carpet manufacturing in the 1930s. The growth of the carpet industry in Dalton resulted from the abundant water

supply, electrical power, natural gas, market accessibility and a well-trained labor force. Today Dalton is considered the world center of carpet manufacture and trade.

The Cities of Cohutta, Tunnel Hill, and Varnell are rural in nature, with a few industries also located in these areas. Cohutta, with the smallest population of the incorporated areas within Whitfield County, is located in the northern most part of the County, near the Tennessee border. Tunnel Hill is located near the Interstate 75 transportation corridor northwest of Dalton. Varnell, with the largest population of the small cities, is located in the northern section of the County between Tunnel Hill and Cohutta.

The unincorporated areas of the County include forest land, agricultural applications, and industries. Approximately two-thirds of the residents of the County live in the unincorporated area of the County.

The location of Whitfield County in the State of Georgia is shown in Figure 1-1.

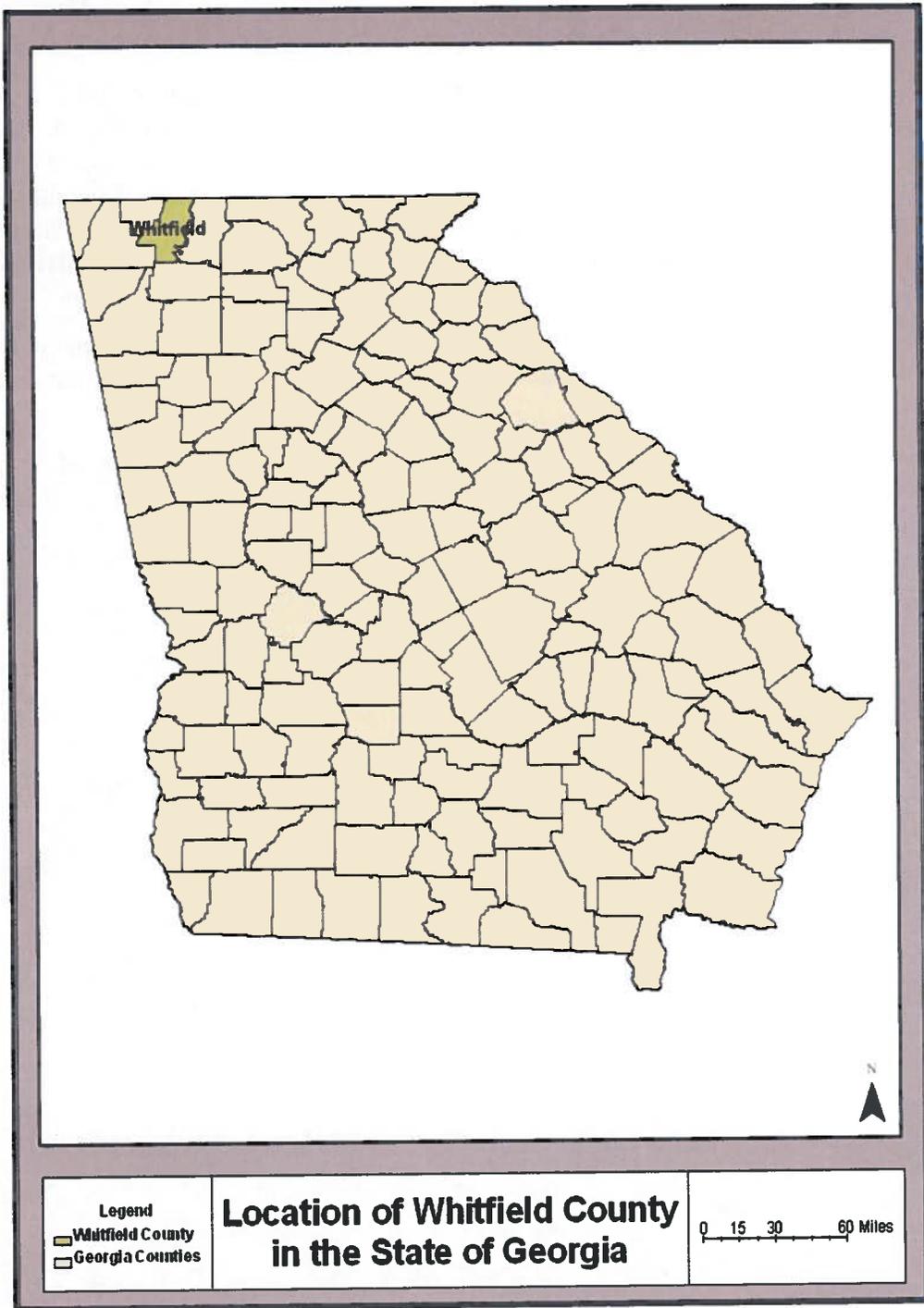


Figure 1-1: Location of Whitfield County in Georgia

### 1.3.1 Topography/Unique Natural Features

Of the 186,527 acres that comprises Whitfield County, approximately 101,580 acres are dedicated to some type of development including forestry, agriculture, parks, recreation, and conservation lands. Approximately 85,015 acres remain undeveloped within the County. Most of this land consists of woodlands and dormant agriculture lands. The County also contains approximately 1,371 acres of water bodies.

The County divides into two districts of the Ridge and Valley Province of the Appalachian Highlands: the Armuchee Ridge District in the west and the Great Valley District in the east.

The Armuchee Ridge District consists of a series of prominent, narrow ridges that rise abruptly above the floor of the Great Valley. These ridges reach elevations as much as 1,800 feet above sea level, and are capped predominantly by Red Mountain sandstone. Floors of intervening valleys are generally underlain by shales and limestone. The Great Valley District tends to be broad and open, with a few scattered ridges and hills. Elevations throughout the area range from 700 to 800 feet above sea level. The valley floor is underlain by shales, dolomites, and limestones.

Whitfield County contains a variety of expansive natural areas including approximately 11,000 acres within the Chattahoochee National Forest, a number of steeped slope mountain ridges, and a considerable amount of flood plains, which are important environmental resources and have limited development potential. The County and Cities have acknowledged the importance of these characteristics, and have adopted a Green Space Plan that proposes to set aside approximately 40,000 acres of these areas for permanent green space preservation.

### 1.3.2 Population

Table 1-1 shows the population breakdown of Whitfield County by jurisdiction from 2000-2005. The population over these years increased by 8.6 percent throughout the County. The most significant growth took place in Varnell and the unincorporated County, which both experience a population growth exceeding 10 percent between 2000 and 2005. Figures from the 2000 Census show a 15.3 percent increase over the previous decade in Whitfield County compared to 26.4 percent for Georgia and 13.1 percent for the nation.

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**Table 1-1**  
**Historical Population for Whitfield County, Georgia<sup>1</sup>**

Planning Area	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005
All Whitfield County	83,525	85,104	86,683	88,262	89,841	91,420
Unincorporated Whitfield County	52,331	53,744	55,144	56,550	57,955	59,359
Cohutta	582	592	602	611	621	631
Dalton	27,912	28,000	28,100	28,200	28,300	28,400
Tunnel Hill	1,209	1,233	1,257	1,281	1,305	1,330
Varnell	1,491	1,535	1,580	1,620	1,660	1,700

<sup>1</sup> North Georgia Regional Development Center.

According to the 1990 U.S. Census, Whitfield County, including the incorporated cities of Dalton, Cohutta, Tunnel Hill, and Varnell had a total of 28,832 housing units. Based upon the 2000 Census, the number of housing units increased by 1,890 units for a total of 30,722 total housing units in 2000. Approximately 21,000 of these are in the unincorporated County while the rest are in the cities, primarily Dalton.

Table 1-2 shows the projected growth over the planning period that this Plan covers. The total population of Whitfield County was estimated at 92,999 in 2006 and is expected to increase by 20.6 percent by 2020. According to these projections, the growth appears to be evenly distributed throughout the County.

**Table 1-2**  
**Population Projections for Whitfield County, Georgia<sup>1</sup>**

Planning Area	2006	2007	2010	2015	2020
All Whitfield County	92,999	93,980	98,578	105,731	112,216
Unincorporated Whitfield County	57,929	58,541	61,404	65,859	69,899
Cohutta	597	603	633	679	720
Dalton	32,140	32,479	34,068	36,540	38,781
Tunnel Hill	1,072	1,083	1,136	1,219	1,294
Varnell	1,261	1,274	1,337	1,434	1,522

<sup>1</sup> 2007 North Georgia Data Profile, North Georgia Regional Development Center. 2006 data are U.S. Census Bureau estimates; 2007-2030 data are NGRDC projections, April 2007. Population estimates for 2006 and projections thereafter were revised from the 2000-2005 data shown in Table 1-1.

### 1.3.2.1 Seasonal Population Variation

Whitfield County does not report dramatic changes in population over the course of a year.

### 1.3.3 Economic Activity

As a world-wide production and distribution center for the carpet industry, Whitfield County is a leading economic force in North Georgia, as well as a significant contributor to Georgia's overall economy. Satellite facilities and spin-off businesses from Whitfield County-based carpet manufacturers provide jobs, tax revenues, and other benefits to adjacent counties. The manufacturing sector dominates the local area economy. In addition to the carpet industry, the County has attracted a small number of other industries including those associated with chicken processing, printing, chemicals, plastics, and other products. Most new industry in the area is related in some way to the manufacture of carpet, either using carpet by-products or producing raw materials or chemicals used in producing and distributing carpet.

Dalton is also the largest retail and service sector market in the region. Located on I-75 with no nearby towns of a competitive size closer than Chattanooga, Tennessee, Dalton's primary market includes Whitfield County, and major portions of Murray and Gordon Counties. Murray is so tightly integrated with the Whitfield economy that it is expected that the two counties will soon be declared an MSA (Metropolitan Statistical Area). About 80 percent of manufacturing activity within the County occurs with the Dalton city limits.

Of the top 20 employers in terms of number of employees, seven are carpet manufacturing firms as shown in Table 1-3. Also among large employers are a poultry processing plant, a printing company, a temporary placement agency and one retail chain store. Health services, schools and city government make up the balance of the list.

**Table 1-3  
Top 20 Employers in Whitfield County  
By Number of Employees**

Company	Product/Service	Employees
Shaw Industries, Inc	Carpet	8,996
Mohawk Industries	Carpet	5,934
Beaulieu of America, Inc	Carpet	3,112
Hamilton Medical Center	Health Services	1,686
Whitfield County School System	Education Services	1,632
Dalton City Schools	Education Services	838
J & J Industries, Inc	Carpet	798
Collins & Aikman Corp.	Carpet	794
Alltel Communications Service Corp	Telecommunications Service	715
Conagra Poultry Co	Poultry Processing	615
City of Dalton	Municipal Government	550
Brown Industries, Inc	Printing	550
Oriental Weavers USA, Inc	Carpet	485

## Section 1

Company	Product/Service	Employees
Wal-Mart Associates, Inc	Retail Sales	462
Whitfield County	County Government	453
Innovative Fibers, Inc	Textile Goods, nec	450
Newmark Rug Mills	Carpet	433
Georgia Highlands Community Services	Health Services	359
Temporary Placement Services	Temporary Help	308
Dalton State College	Education Services	298

Source: Georgia Department of Labor, 2000.

Table 1-4 provides a breakdown of employment by industry in Whitfield County in 1995 and 2005. Manufacturing comprises nearly half of total employment in both years. Although more than 6,000 new manufacturing jobs were created over the ten year period, the percentage of total Whitfield County employees in manufacturing declined from 51.5 to 49.8 percent over the ten years. Overall, employment in Whitfield County increased by over 14,000 jobs, or approximately 25 percent during this time period. Only agriculture, forestry, and fisheries experience a decline in the number of employees.

**Table 1-4  
Employment by Industry  
Whitfield County (1995-2005)**

Employment Sector	1995		2005	
	Number of Employees	% of Total Employment	Number of Employees	% of Total Employment
Agriculture/Forestry/Fisheries	290	0.5	244	0.3
Mining	72	0.1	132	0.2
Construction	1,047	1.8	1,312	1.9
Manufacturing	29,136	51.5	35,228	49.8
Transportation and Public Utilities	2,741	4.8	4,174	5.9
Wholesale Trade	4,141	7.3	5,252	7.4
Retail Trade	6,946	12.2	9,147	12.9
Finance, Insurance, and Real Estate	1,139	2.0	1,234	1.7
Services	6,630	11.7	8,227	11.6
Government	4,422	7.8	5,741	8.1
<b>Total</b>	<b>56,564</b>		<b>70,691</b>	

Source: Whitfield County and Cities Joint Comprehensive Plan Update, October 2001

Table 1-5 shows employment projections by sector for Whitfield County from 2005 to 2015. Employment projections by sector were developed by the North Georgia

Regional Development Center. Table 1-5 indicates that agriculture, forestry and fisheries jobs are expected to continue to decline slightly while other sectors will continue to increase. Manufacturing, dominated by the carpet industry, is expected to continue to provide the largest proportion of jobs in the County through the year 2015, with a projected increase of over 6,000 jobs again in the next decade.

**Table 1-5  
Employment Projections by Sector  
Whitfield County (2005 - 2015)**

	2005	2015
Agriculture/Forestry/Fisheries	244	214
Mining	132	176
Construction	1,312	1,545
Manufacturing	35,228	41,348
Transportation and Public Utilities	4,174	5,771
Wholesale Trade	5,252	6,871
Retail Trade	9,147	11,530
Finance, Insurance, and Real Estate	1,234	1,346
Services	8,227	9,714
Government	5,741	6,943
<b>Total</b>	<b>70,691</b>	<b>85,459</b>

Source: Whitfield County and Cities Joint Comprehensive Plan Update, October 2001

### 1.3.4 Transportation Networks

Transportation routes are well established because of the degree of shipping needed by the carpet industry. Transportation services within the County that are or may be applicable to solid waste management are summarized below. The information was obtained from the Whitfield County and Cities Joint Comprehensive Plan Update, October 2001.

#### Rail Service

Two rail systems operate in the area. CSX connects Dalton with Chattanooga, Tennessee and Cartersville, Georgia and also operates a piggyback service handling more than 2,000 piggyback cars per month. The Norfolk Southern rail service connects Dalton, Varnell and Cohutta with Cleveland, Tennessee and Rome, Georgia.

#### Motor Freight Carriers

Whitfield County has 46 motor freight carriers. Because of the large volume of carpet related trucking that occurs here, rates are quite competitive. Competing alternatives such as rail service also contribute to its favorable freight rates.

## Section 1

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### Highway System

Whitfield County has over 1,000 miles of public roads in its transportation system. The extensive motor freight shipping and worker commuting patterns in the area make continued maintenance and updating of the road system important to the area's economic development. Local public works departments have the principle responsibility for identifying needed transportation projects on an annual basis and seeking funding from local, state and federal sources. The Special Purpose Local Option Sales Tax has also been successfully utilized in the past to fund major improvements such as construction of the by-pass around Dalton, and adding lanes to State Route 71, U.S. 41 and Abutment Road from Walnut Avenue to the South Bypass. A new SPLOST was passed in September 2007 that will provide another \$48 million over the next three years for transportation projects throughout Whitfield County.

## Section 2

# WASTE DISPOSAL STREAM ANALYSIS

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This Section addresses the amount of waste that was generated for disposal in Whitfield County, no matter where it was disposed. This Section does not address the amount of waste disposed at facilities in Whitfield County that was generated in other counties (this information is described in Section 5).

## 2.1 Amount of Waste Disposed

According to reports from Georgia landfills to the Georgia Department of Natural Resources Environmental Protection Division (EPD), a total of 164,871 tons of waste from Whitfield County was disposed in MSW landfills in Georgia in 2006.<sup>1</sup> Another 697 tons from Whitfield County were disposed in the Bradley County, Tennessee landfill according to the Tennessee Department of Environment and Conservation (TDEC). Thus, the reported total waste disposed in MSW landfills from Whitfield County was 165,568 tons in 2006. Table 2-1 shows where solid waste generated in Whitfield County was reportedly disposed in 2006. It is possible that additional solid waste is being sent to other facilities within Georgia and/or in Tennessee or possibly Alabama that was not reported as Whitfield County solid waste.

**Table 2-1**  
**MSW Landfills Reporting Solid Waste from Whitfield County**  
**2006**

Landfill Location	Tons
Whitfield County, GA	131,812
Murray County, GA	21,846
Gordon County, GA	11,214
Bradley County, TN	697
<b>Total</b>	<b>165,568</b>

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<sup>1</sup> Although this is the best source of data available, it should be noted that there are some shortcomings to the data. Landfills typically get these data by asking collectors to identify the jurisdiction where each load was collected. Collectors may not answer this question in a way that correctly identifies the source of waste; for example, they may report that the load came from a single jurisdiction when, in fact, it may have come from multiple jurisdictions. Similarly, if solid waste passed through transfer stations prior to disposal at a landfill, it is possible that the waste would be documented as coming from the County in which the transfer station is located.

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## Section 2

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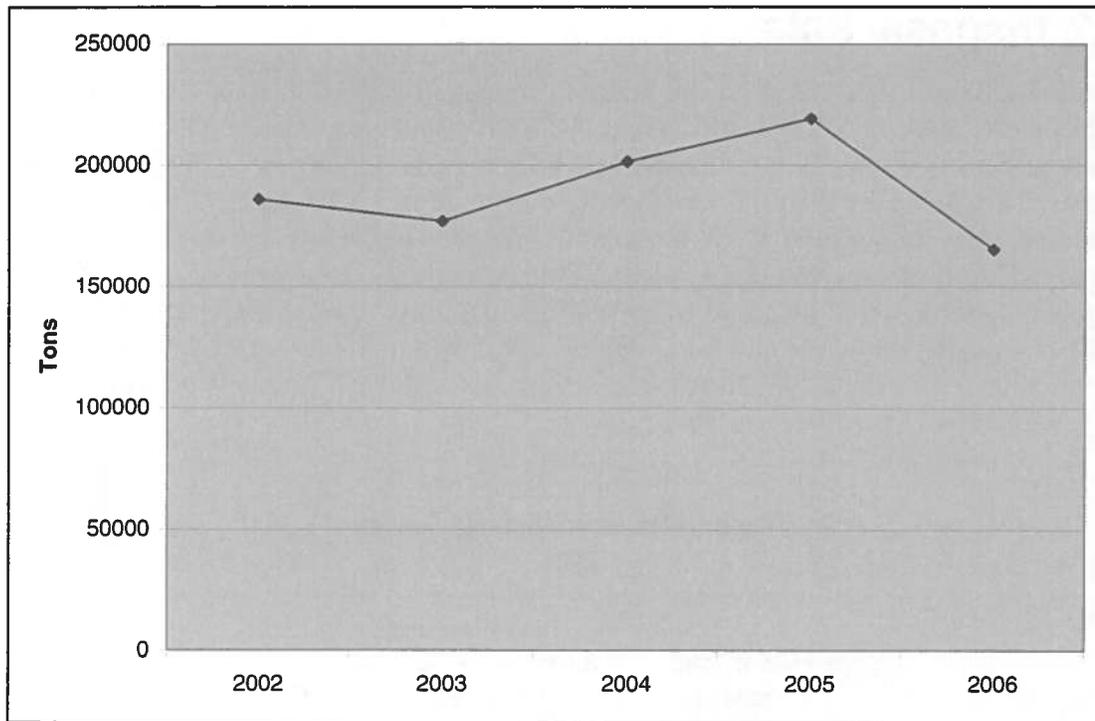
In addition to the solid waste shown in Table 2-1, baled carpet from Whitfield County goes to DWRSWMA's industrial balefill (described more in Section 5). EPD records indicate that 18,950 tons of waste was disposed in DWRSWMA's Industrial Waste Balefill from Whitfield County in 2006.

Although DWRSWMA disposes of construction and demolition (C&D) waste in their MSW landfill, it is likely that separated C&D from the County goes to other facilities; however, no C&D landfills in Georgia reported accepting C&D from Whitfield County. The DWRSWMA reports that some C&D generated in Whitfield County likely goes to a C&D disposal facility in Tennessee. However, TDEC does not keep records of waste coming to C&D landfills from out of State.

Figure 2-1 shows that, based on the tonnage reported by Georgia landfills to EPD, the amount of waste disposed in MSW landfills from Whitfield County in 2006 was significantly lower than that reported for prior years. Some of the difference may be attributable to anomalies in reporting. For example, there is reason to believe that one or more of the larger collectors in Whitfield County may be delivering some of the County's waste to transfer stations that, upon disposal at other landfills, may not be reported as Whitfield County waste. However, it is also likely that at least a part of this reduction is due to increased waste reduction efforts, both on the part of local industry and as a result of DWRSWMA's programs (described in Section 3).

The decrease from 2005, however, may be partially the result of an overestimate in that year. The amount of waste reported for 2005 was significantly higher than prior years, totaling 218,756 tons. However, it is believed that at least some of the 2005 tonnage reported as Whitfield County waste was generated in Gordon County. Indeed, the amount of waste reported from Gordon County waste was 37 percent less in 2005 than in 2006.

In conclusion, it is likely that the 2005 tonnage from Whitfield County was over reported and the 2006 tonnage was under reported. These conclusions will be taken into consideration when projecting the amount of waste for future years.



Source: EPD Municipal Solid Waste Landfill Reported Tonnage Data for Whitfield County

**Figure 2-1: Waste Disposed in Georgia MSW Landfills from Whitfield County 2002 through 2006**

### 2.1.1 Unique Conditions and/or Seasonal Variations

The County does not have any unique conditions that would impact the waste stream. It does not experience any significant seasonal changes in population or waste received. The seasons do bring a variation in yard trimmings, with leaves in October and November and grass clippings and other yard waste in the spring and summer months. Construction and demolition activity varies considerably from year-to-year, depending on factors such as new building projects, interest rates, etc.

### 2.1.2 Waste-Generating Disasters

Without knowing the type and degree of the unanticipated disasters, the DWRSWMA can not project the additional amount of waste that would require management for such an incident. However, based on experience elsewhere, it is clear that a major disaster could result in many times more waste to be disposed than in an average year. The sections on collection and disposal outline the approach that the County would take to deal with waste resulting from such disasters.

## 2.2 Disposal Rate

Table 2-2 shows that based on the reported tonnage of 165,568 tons disposed from Whitfield County in MSW landfills and the 2006 population stated in Table 1-2, the average person in the County disposed of 9.76 pounds per day in MSW landfills in 2006. This is higher than the reported state average in FY2004 of 7.52 pounds per person per day disposed in MSW landfills (6.5 pounds per person per day when waste imported from other states is excluded). This is likely the case because a significant amount of the material disposed from Whitfield County, at least in the DWRSWMA landfill, is industrial waste and C&D debris. As shown in Table 2-2, if these items are not included, then the MSW disposal rate is estimated to be 7.7 pounds per person per day, very close to the State average.

**Table 2-2  
Disposal Rates in Whitfield County  
2006**

Waste Type	Percent of Total Disposed in DWRSWMA Landfill	Tons Disposed Based on Percentage Disposed in DWRSWMA Landfill	Pounds Per Person Per Day
MSW <sup>1</sup>	79.2%	131,130	7.73
Industrial	8.6%	14,239	.84
C&D	12.2%	20,199	1.19
<b>Total</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>165,568</b>	<b>9.76</b>

<sup>1</sup> MSW is comprised of residential and commercial solid waste. However, it is likely that in Whitfield County, some waste characterized as MSW also contains industrial solid waste.

### 2.2.1 Reduction in Disposal Rate

According to the revised 1997 DWRSWMA Solid Waste Management Plan Update, the per capita disposal rate for all solid waste in 1995 was 10.7 pounds per capita per day. The apparent decrease in per capita disposal rate between 1995 and 2006 is likely due to the efforts that the DWRSWMA has taken to divert waste, especially carpet-related waste, from its MSW landfill and into recovery programs and the balefill. This has been achieved by offering collectors incentives to bale carpets at their own facilities and in developing facility on site to bale carpet for market and for the balefill. These programs are described in more detail in subsequent Sections.

## 2.3 Waste Characterization

The DWRSWMA characterizes each load of solid waste entering the Old Dixie Landfill by material type and/or source based on driver and vehicle identification and/or visual inspection. Table 2-3 shows the waste composition of all incoming loads to the MSW landfill (including those from out-of-County which comprised only

## WASTE DISPOSAL STREAM ANALYSIS

about 3 percent of the total in 2006). For the purpose of this waste characterization, it is assumed that all waste generated for disposal in Whitfield County has the same composition. It can be seen from this data that the majority of waste comes from Whitfield County's commercial sector.

**Table 2-3  
Waste Composition of  
MSW Disposed at Old Dixie Landfill**

Material	Category	2006 (Tons)	% of Waste Stream
Asbestos	C&D	3.6	0.0%
Asphalt/Concrete	C&D	39.1	0.0%
Bag House Dust	Industrial	75.7	0.1%
Cardboard	MSW	79.5	0.1%
Cardboard	Industrial	79.5	0.1%
Carpet Waste	Industrial	2,499.2	1.9%
Commercial	MSW	73,944.7	56.4%
C&D	C&D	9,974.3	7.6%
Dead Animals	MSW	348.8	0.3%
Foam Bunn	Industrial	551.0	0.4%
Foundry Sand	Industrial	176.1	0.1%
Household	MSW	27,628.6	21.1%
Latex Sludge	Industrial	47.0	0.0%
Latex Paint	MSW	10.8	0.0%
Lint	Industrial	7,887.6	6.0%
Pallets	MSW	57.9	0.0%
Plastic	Industrial	20.2	0.0%
Residual Waste	Industrial	160.8	0.1%
Roadside Litter	MSW	156.9	0.1%
Shingles	C&D	1,217.1	0.9%
Slag	Industrial	267.3	0.2%
Sludge	Industrial	431.6	0.3%
Railroad Cross Ties	MSW	0.2	0.0%
Tex Latex	Industrial	2,124.1	1.6%
Unbaled Selvedge	Industrial	2,064.7	1.6%
Wire Scrap	Industrial	23.2	0.0%
Other MSW	MSW	1,011.9	0.8%
Other Industrial	Industrial	248.6	0.2%
<b>Total</b>		<b>131,130.0</b>	<b>100.0%</b>

## 2.4 Projection of Waste to Be Disposed

Table 2-4 shows the anticipated tonnage of solid waste to be disposed in MSW landfills in each of the planning years based on population growth assuming the per capita disposal rate remains the same as in 2006. However, historically, the amount of solid waste disposed in MSW landfills is more closely tied to the economic activity in the carpet industry than the population. Thus, projections in this Plan are based on projected increases in the carpet industry rather than projected increases in population.

**Table 2-4  
Disposal Projections in MSW Landfills from  
Whitfield County Based on Population Projections  
2008 - 2018**

Year	Projected Population	Pounds Per Capita	Projected Tonnage Disposed
2008	95,488	9.76	28,347 <sup>1</sup>
2009	97,021	9.76	172,814
2010	98,578	9.76	175,587
2011	99,969	9.76	178,064
2012	101,379	9.76	180,576
2013	102,809	9.76	183,123
2014	104,259	9.76	185,707
2015	105,731	9.76	188,328
2016	106,978	9.76	190,549
2017	108,240	9.76	192,797
2018	109,517	9.76	162,559 <sup>2</sup>
<b>Total</b>			<b>2,012,700</b>

<sup>1</sup> From October 31 – December 31, 2008

<sup>2</sup> From January 1 – October 31, 2018

Figure 2-1 shows that reports indicated that Whitfield County disposed of 218,756 tons in 2005. As described earlier, the DWRSWMA considers this large amount of tonnage, primarily received at the DWRSWMA Landfill, to be an outlier, unlikely to be repeated on a consistent basis. However, the tonnage reported in 2006 of 165,568 tons, is significantly lower than the prior four years and likely will not be a reliable forecaster of future tonnage, either. Instead, a more realistic baseline tonnage on which to project disposal rates would lie approximately halfway in between, say 192,162 tons.

According to the Whitfield County And Cities Joint Comprehensive Plan Update, October 2001, the “total quantity of industry shipments for carpets and rugs have increased every year since 1991 averaging 3.8 percent annually from 1990-98. No serious break with past trends is expected.” Thus, Table 2-5 indicates waste disposal projections based on the projected 3.8 percent carpet industry growth and a baseline

## WASTE DISPOSAL STREAM ANALYSIS

volume of 192,162 tons. This scenario results in a total of 2,447,800 tons being disposed over the ten-year planning period; however, it is based on the assumption that no further waste reduction activity occurs.

Another possibility is that increases in solid waste resulting from the growth in the carpet industry are offset by increasing diversion activities, both by the DWRSWMA and by local industry. To illustrate this scenario, Table 2-5 shows disposal projections based on the assumption that the average tonnage of 192,162 remains constant throughout the planning period. In this scenario, a total of 1,921,620 tons will be generated for disposal in Whitfield County. This is the scenario that will be used in projecting the amount of Whitfield County waste that will be generated for disposal when assessing landfill capacity in Section 5.

**Table 2-5  
Two Scenarios of Projected Amount of Waste Disposed in MSW Landfills  
2008 – 2018**

Year	Disposal Rates Increase with Growth in the Carpet Industry (Tons)	Average of 2005 and 2006 Tonnage Continues
2008 <sup>1</sup>	33,311	32,027
2009	207,044	192,162
2010	214,911	192,162
2011	223,078	192,162
2012	231,555	192,162
2013	240,354	192,162
2014	249,488	192,162
2015	258,968	192,162
2016	268,809	192,162
2017	279,024	192,162
2018 <sup>2</sup>	241,259	160,135
<b>Total</b>	<b>2,447,800</b>	<b>1,921,620</b>

<sup>1</sup> From November 1 – December 31, 2008

<sup>2</sup> From January 1 – October 31, 2018

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## Section 3

# WASTE REDUCTION ELEMENT

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### 3.1 Inventory and Assessment

This Section describes the waste reduction programs operating in Whitfield County. Waste reduction includes reducing the amount of waste generated (source reduction), reuse, recycling, and composting.

#### 3.1.1 Source Reduction and Reuse

Source reduction and reuse are the first steps in the process to reduce the amount of waste requiring disposal. In Whitfield County, residential source reduction efforts include promoting consumer awareness of purchasing and use of product to reduce waste at the source and to reuse. Public education materials emphasize source reduction activities. The carpet industry has taken many steps to reduce the amount of waste generated at the source, for example, installing equipment to reduce the amount of selvedge from the manufacturing process by 50 percent. Another example is one company's sample "Print on Demand System" that allows for customized, branded labels to be printed when samples are ordered, instead of maintaining unnecessary back stock, thus minimizing the amount of waste generated by providing samples.

#### 3.1.2 Residential Recycling

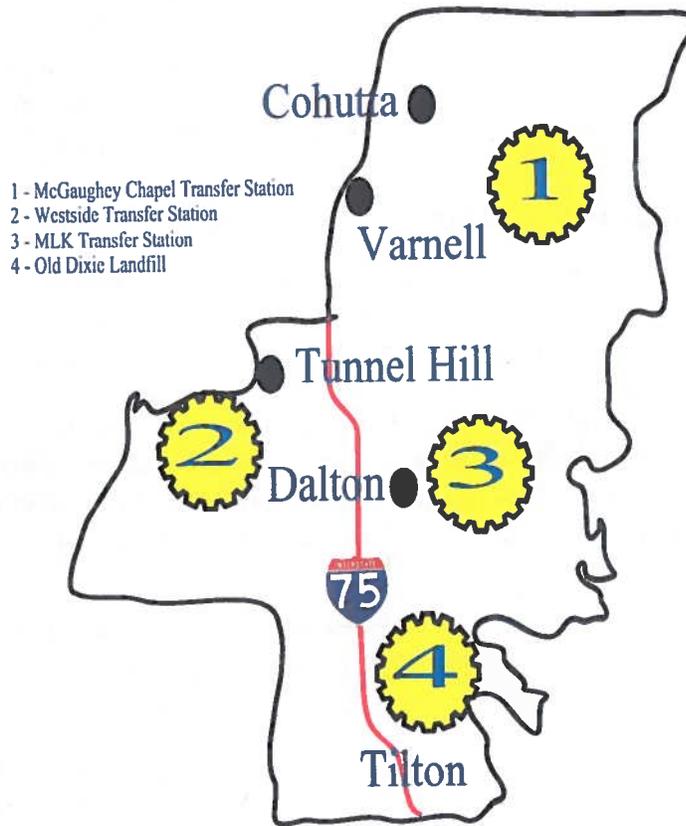
The City of Dalton offers curbside collection of recyclables to 6,200 households in the City. Mixed paper, old corrugated cardboard (OCC), glass bottles and jars, aluminum cans, tin cans, and plastic containers are collected on a weekly basis by the City's Public Works Department who then hauls the materials to the Materials Recovery Facility (MRF) located at the Old Dixie Landfill (described below). The DWRSWMA has formed a partnership with the City to assist with the marketing and processing of the commodities. The City does not pay a processing fee but the Authority keeps the majority of the revenue from the sale of materials. Recyclables collected over the past three years are shown in Table 3-1.

Curbside collection of recyclables is not offered in any of the other cities or in the unincorporated County unless under separate agreement between private haulers and their customers.

**Table 3-1  
City of Dalton Curbside Recycling Tonnages**

Year	Tonnage
2004	767.58
2005	724.27
2006	628.41

DWRSWMA operates a total of four convenience centers that accept recyclables from residents. The locations are shown in Figure 3-1. The convenience centers are staffed sites allowing residents to dispose of, in addition to bulky household waste, bagged garbage and yard wastes, the following recyclables: #1 & #2 plastics, OCC,, newspaper, magazines, aluminum cans, white goods and scrap metal, tires, glass (clear, brown & green), waste motor oil and batteries. Facility information is presented in Table 3-2. For all recyclables except tires, the public does not pay or receive payment for delivery to a drop-off center. For tires, the public pays \$2.00 each (\$3.00 with rim) for car tires and \$7.50 (\$15.00 with rim) for truck tires. Businesses pay \$136.30 per ton. These tires cannot be dropped at one of the smaller convenience centers; they must be delivered directly to the Old Dixie Landfill.



**Figure 3-1: DWRSWMA Convenience Center Locations**

## WASTE REDUCTION ELEMENT

**Table 3-2  
DWRSWMA Convenience Center Information**

Facility	Address	Phone Number	Hours
Old Dixie Highway	4189 Old Dixie Highway	706-277-2545	Mon-Fri: 7 a.m. – 6 p.m.; Sat: 7 a.m. – 3 p.m.
McGaughey Chapel	819 McGaughey Chapel Road	706-694-8744	Mon-Fri (closed Wednesday): 7 a.m. – 6 p.m.; Sat: 7 a.m. – 3 p.m.
MLK	1924 Martin Luther King Boulevard	706-226-6325	Mon-Fri: 7 a.m. – 6 p.m.; Sat: 7 a.m. – 3 p.m.
Westside	2598 Landfill Road	706-673-5895	Mon-Fri (closed Tuesday): 7 a.m. – 6 p.m.; Sat: 7 a.m. – 3 p.m.

Types of recyclables and tonnages collected at the convenience centers in 2006 are presented in Table 3-3.

**Table 3-3  
Recyclable Materials Collected at  
Convenience Centers (2006)**

Material	Tons	% of Materials Collected for Recycling
ONP/Magazines	161.90	9.2%
OCC	64.78	3.7%
Plastic	1.78	0.1%
Aluminum Cans	6.92	0.1%
Glass (clear, green and brown)	42.97	2.5%
White Goods/ Scrap Metal	1,122.64	64.3%
Batteries	26.09	1.5%
Waste Oil	44.39	2.5%
Tires	281.65	16.1%
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,753.12</b>	<b>100.0%</b>

It can be seen from these numbers that scrap metal makes up nearly two-thirds of the recycled materials, tires are over 16 percent of the total, and old newspaper and magazines are over 9 percent.

Other recycling activities in Whitfield County have been initiated either through private industry, as fund-raising tools for civic and government organizations, or as environmental awareness tools by environmental groups or government organizations.

### 3.1.3 Commercial, Industrial, and Institutional Recycling

In addition to collection of recyclables at the convenience centers, the DWRSWMA collects recyclables at four schools and in the downtown district. Cardboard, office paper, aluminum cans, and plastic containers are collected at the school. The downtown Dalton container accepts cardboard and mixed paper and is co-sponsored by the Downtown Dalton Development Authority (DDDA). DWRSWMA currently operates one full time roll-off truck six days a week Monday-Saturday which services the schools and a paper box in the downtown district (in addition to three of the four convenience centers).

The DWRSWMA operates one full time and one part time roll-off route that services the four convenience centers, four schools and a downtown district roll-off container.

The Authority diverts commercial and industrial loads arriving at the landfill that contain a high proportion of carpet waste and/or carpet-related paper waste to its MRF located at Old Dixie landfill. The Authority also collects post-consumer carpet at the convenience center located at the Old Dixie Landfill and sends it to the MRF. The Authority either markets this material for recycling or sends it to the balefill, depending on whether there is a market for the particular fiber or material. Each year, the Authority diverts more material from the commercial and industrial sector at its MRF to recycling.

Private haulers and recyclers also collect recyclables from businesses and industries. Several private haulers collect old corrugated containers from businesses in roll-off containers or six to eight yard front-end loaded containers. They take these materials directly to market. One private hauler provides balers for their industrial customers for old corrugated containers and hauls the baled cardboard to market on flatbed trailers. Processors and end users also go directly to carpet mills in the County to collect office paper, carpet cores, and yarn tubes as well as certain types of industrial plastic and carpet waste.

The carpet industry has taken steps in Whitfield County and internationally to recycle both post-industrial and post-consumer carpet waste. For example, one carpet manufacturer in Dalton operates the first gasification, waste-to-energy facility in the carpet industry. The boiler is fueled with carpet waste and laminate wood floor waste, after being gasified, rather than the traditional fossil fuel. The resulting steam is used for carpet dyeing. According to the manufacturer, this facility diverts approximately 16,000 tons of carpet waste and 6,000 tons of wood waste from disposal each year.

The carpet industry, through the Carpet America Recovery Effort (CARE) has a goal of helping to divert 40 percent of the total post-consumer carpet (PCC) generated by 2012. CARE's 2006 Annual Report reports that 261,000,000 pounds of post-consumer carpet was diverted from landfills, with 240,000,000 pounds being recycled. Although this represents a 16 percent increase in diversion and 23 percent increase in recycling compared to 2005, only 5 percent of the 5,261,000,000 pounds of total carpet waste discarded was diverted in 2006.

### 3.1.4 Summary of Programs

Table 3-4 summarizes the recycling programs operating in Whitfield County, and Table 3-5 shows the total amounts and sources of all materials recycled through the Authority's programs and Dalton's curbside program.

**Table 3-4  
Recycling Programs in Whitfield County**

Type of Program	Population Served	Owned and Operated by	Materials Accepted
Curbside	City of Dalton residents	City of Dalton	Mixed paper, OCC, glass, aluminum cans, tin cans, and plastic beverage containers
Drop-Off	All residents of County	DWRSWMA	Yard wastes, #1 & #2 plastics, cardboard, newspaper, magazines, aluminum cans, white goods and scrap metal, tires, glass (clear, brown & green), waste motor oil and batteries.
Commercial Collection	Local Businesses	Private haulers, recyclers, industry	Cardboard, paper from carpet industry, carpet, carpet pad, office paper
School Collection	School students and staff	DWRSWMA	Aluminum cans, plastic containers, cardboard, mixed paper
Downtown Business District	Downtown Businesses	DWRSWMA and DDDA	Office paper and cardboard
Post-Consumer Carpet Collection	Primarily carpet installers	DWRSWMA	Carpet and carpet pad
Energy Recovery	Local Carpet Manufacturer	Private Industries	Manufactured carpet and flooring wastes
Industrial Collection	Local Carpet Industries	Private Industries	Selvedge, paper, cardboard, plastic, others
Household Hazardous Waste	All residents of County	DWRSWMA	Latex paint, pesticides, oil-based paint, varnish, aerosol cans, cleaning solvents, oven cleaner, paint thinner, batteries, weed killer, insecticides, pool chemicals*

\* Some of these materials are recycled and some are disposed in a facility permitted to handle such waste.  
Source: DWRSWMA.

**Table 3-5  
Materials Recycled through Authority and Dalton Programs**

Commodity	Tons	Source
ONP/Magazines	198.32	DC, CC, DDDA, S
Cardboard	207.09	DC, CC, I
Pallets	28.67	I
Carpet	5,215.90	I, PC
Lint	526.11	I
Tubes/Cones/Cores	68.39	I
Bi-Metal Cans	10.18	DC
Carpet Pad	37.82	PC
Aluminum Cans	6.92	DC, CC, S
Mixed Paper	432.41	DC, DDDA, S
#1 PET Plastic	23.14	DC, CC, S
#2 HDPE Plastic	17.04	DC, CC, S
Clear Glass	37.38	DC, CC
Green Glass	18.46	DC, CC
Brown Glass	45.40	DC, CC
White Goods / Scrap Metal	1,122.60	CC
Batteries	26.09	CC
Waste Oil	44.39	CC
Tires	281.65	CC
<b>Total</b>	<b>8,348.01</b>	

DC = Dalton Curbside Recycling Program  
 CC = Convenience Center Drop-Off Program  
 DDDA = Downtown Dalton Development Authority  
 S = Schools  
 I = Industrial or Commercial Recycling Program  
 PC = Post Consumer

It can be seen from this table that the majority of tonnage is carpet waste from industrial and post-consumer sources.

### 3.1.5 Processing

Most recyclables collected by the DWRSWMA<sup>1</sup> and carpet- or paper-heavy loads arriving at the landfill are delivered to the MRF. This facility, opened in January 2002, is located at the Old Dixie Landfill and is owned and operated by the DWRSWMA.

The 40,000 square-foot MRF was built initially to receive carpet waste coming from the carpet mills but now also handles #1 & #2 plastic, newspaper and magazines,

<sup>1</sup> Used oil, batteries, scrap metal and scrap tires are collected at each individual site by the processor rather than go to the MRF.

mixed paper, tubes, cores, cones, bi-metal cans, telephone books, cardboard, aluminum cans, glass (clear, brown & green) and wood pallets. Additionally, a post consumer carpet pilot program was started in April 2006 at the MRF. This program allows small generators (i.e. residents and installers), who typically have limited recycling options, to dispose of unwanted carpet and carpet pad materials. It is another important step in the Authority's efforts to expand and enhance its recycling initiatives, and future upgrades to the program could involve better carpet fiber identification technology and off-site drop off locations which would expand the program to a regional level.

The MRF building infrastructure includes:

- Tipping floor for incoming loads, processing and sorting area, and area for storage of processed loads awaiting loading onto trailers;
- Offices and training room to accommodate 30 to 40 visitors;
- Six dock doors for either incoming trailer loads and to load out trailers to the market place;
- Three roll up 18ft x 30ft height doors for receiving inbound loads; and
- Various mobile bunkers within the MRF building to store both loose inbound materials and to store materials awaiting trailers for shipment to the market place.

In early 2003 DWRSWMA built additional outside bunkers to accommodate materials collected in the City of Dalton's residential curbside recycling program. Mobile equipment used both inside the MRF and on the outside bunker areas includes two forklifts, one skid steer loader and a larger rubber tire loader with both forks and a bucket.

Table 3-6 shows the amounts and types of recyclables processed at the MRF in 2006. It should be noted that the quantities shown below are inclusive of the recyclables collected curbside in Dalton (Table 3-1) and at the convenience centers (Table 3-3) since most of those materials are processed at the MRF, as well.

This table indicates that the majority of material handled at the MRF in 2006 was waste carpet.

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**Table 3-6  
Recyclable Materials Processed at the MRF  
2006**

<b>Commodity</b>	<b>Tons</b>
ONP/magazines	198.32
Tubes/Cores	68.18
OCC/cardboard	207.16
Mixed Paper	432.41
Electronics	10.55
Wood Pallets	28.67
#1 PET	20.44
#2 HDPE Natural/Colored	21.94
Aluminum	6.92
Bi-metal cans	12.10
Glass/clear, brown, green	101.47
Post-Industrial carpet	5,220.28
Post-Consumer carpet	580.03
Carpet Pad	37.82
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>6,946.29</b>

Total tonnages received, the amount baled and sent to the balefill, and the amount sent to market since the MRF began operation in 2002 are presented in Table 3-7. The data indicate that each year, less material is sent to the balefill while more is sent to market for recycling. The resulting revenue from the sale of recyclables has increased each year, as well.

**Table 3-7  
Inbound Tonnage, Tons Baled, Tons Marketed, and Revenue for MRF  
2002-2006**

<b>Year</b>	<b>Inbound Tons &amp; User Fees</b>		<b>Baled and Diverted to Balefill</b>	<b>Tons Sent to Market</b>	<b>Revenue Rec'd from Sale</b>
2002	13,178 tons	\$329,459	10,460 tons	544 tons	\$23,010
2003	14,431 tons	\$360,775	9,909 tons	803 tons	\$41,818
2004	10,698 tons	\$267,450	7,137 tons	2,628 tons	\$197,986
2005	14,717 tons	\$367,925	6,564 tons	5,105 tons	\$328,229
2006	16,977 tons	\$424,425	4,334 tons	6,946 tons	\$348,786

### **3.1.6 Markets for Materials**

The approach for marketing materials collected in DWRSWMA programs is described below. Markets used for recycling are listed in Table 3-8.

- Paper – DWRSWMA delivers newspaper, magazines, OCC, mixed paper and tubes/cores to a Georgia-based Caraustar facility. Caraustar either uses the materials directly or brokers them.
- Glass – DWRSWMA transports the glass to Strategic Materials in College Park, Georgia.
- Aluminum and Bi-Metal Cans – Cans are baled and sent to Newell Recycling in Atlanta.
- Plastic – No. 1 (PET) is sent to Mohawk Industries in Summerville, Georgia. No. 2 (HDPE) is sent to KW Plastics in Troy, Alabama and Ensley Corporation in Reidsville, North Carolina.
- Tires – Tri-State Tire Recovery in Blue Ridge, Georgia, provides two trailers at the Old Dixie Landfill and one trailer at the Westside CC. Tires collected at the other two facilities are transferred to the trailer at the Old Dixie Landfill by DWRSWMA personnel. Tri-State picks up the tires every two to three weeks, on average. Tri-State delivers the tires to GTR in Atlanta for end processing.
- Waste Oil – Holston Oil Company in Chattanooga, Tennessee, collects waste oil from 250-gallon tanks located at all four facilities approximately once a month. There is one 250-gallon tank located at each of the four facilities. The tanks are leak-proof and located on concrete pads in secure buildings. Holston Oil Company pumps the waste oil from the tanks into their own truck. Holston Oil Company re-refines the waste oil or processes it for use in a mixture with other types of heating oil.
- Lead-acid Batteries – Interstate Battery picks up the batteries as needed.
- White Goods and Scrap Metals – Self Recycling, located in Cartersville, Georgia, picks up white goods and scrap metals collected in 30-yard roll-off containers at the drop-off centers. Self Recycling picks up white goods and scrap metals about once a week. White goods are stockpiled at the disposal facilities and transfer stations, and staff from the DWRSWMA load the containers using the Authority's equipment. Staff removes refrigerant from appliances prior to recycling.

Table 3-8 lists the private recyclers who accept recovered materials from Whitfield County. Some are end-users while others are intermediate brokers or processors.

**Table 3-8  
Markets for Recovered Materials  
from Whitfield County**

<b>Company/Type of Waste</b>	<b>Location</b>
<b>Textile Waste</b>	
Shaw Industries	Dalton, GA
Columbia Recycling	Dalton, GA
Invista Reclamation Center	Calhoun, GA
Mohawk Industries, Inc.	Summerville, GA
C & C Recycle	LaFayette, GA
<b>Metals (aluminum cans, steel cans, scrap metals, etc.)</b>	
Ben's Aluminum Recycling	Dalton, GA
Self Recycling	Cartersville, GA
Regional Recycling, LLC	Cartersville, GA
Metal Conversion Technologies, LLC	Cartersville, GA
Gerdau AmeriSteel	Cartersville, GA
Anniston Metals, Inc.	Rome, GA
Newell Recycling	Atlanta, GA
<b>Paper (including newspaper and cardboard)</b>	
Caraustar	Dalton, GA
Paper Recovery	Rome, GA
<b>Plastics (including residential and industrial plastics)</b>	
Cycle-Tex	Dalton, GA
Mohawk Industries (No. 1 PET)	Summerville, GA
KW Plastics (No. 2 HDPE)	Troy, AL
Ensley Corporation (No. 2 HDPE)	Reidsville, NC
<b>Glass</b>	
Strategic Materials	College Park, GA
<b>Tires</b>	
Tri-State Tire Recovery	Blue Ridge, GA
<b>Batteries</b>	
Interstate Battery	
<b>Waste Oil</b>	
Holston Oil Company	Chattanooga, TN
<b>Construction and Demolition Debris</b>	
CleanSite Recycling, Inc	Cartersville, GA

Because of the unique nature of some of the carpet-related material received at the DWRSWMA Landfill and MRF, the DWRSWMA staff is always exploring markets for additional textile related material. As shown in Table 3-7, the amount of material marketed has increased each year since the MRF opened. This is due, in large part, to the identification of markets for unique materials related to the carpet industry.

### **3.1.7 Household Hazardous Waste Management**

Prior to 1999, an annual collection for household hazardous wastes (HHW) was held by DWRSWMA. In June 1999 DWRSWMA opened the first publicly owned and operated permanent HHW Facility in the State of Georgia. The facility remains the only facility like it in the State.

The HHW facility is open the third Saturday of every month, 7 a.m. – 2 p.m., for collection from residents. Materials currently accepted include latex paint, pesticides, oil-based paint, varnish, aerosol cans, cleaning solvents, oven cleaner, paint thinner, batteries, weed killer, insecticides and pool chemicals. Wastes must be in their original container with the original label, the containers must not leak, and a maximum of 220 pounds per delivery is accepted.

Since its opening in July 1999, the facility has accepted 229,000 pounds of household hazardous wastes. The wastes are temporarily stored (typically for up to six months) and then picked up by a contractor who takes them off-site for incineration. The only HHW that remains on-site for disposition is latex paint; the paint is solidified before being placed in the MSW Landfill.

### **3.1.8 Landfill Gas Recovery**

The DWRSWMA recognizes the environmental and economic benefits of capturing and utilizing landfill gas (LFG) produced by decomposition of the MSW in the Subtitle D Landfill. The economic value of the extracted LFG primarily lies in its methane content which can be used to power electrical generator stations, provide a direct heating fuel for boilers, and provide a hydrocarbon source for conversion to alternate fuels such as dimethyl ether.

The DWRSWMA evaluated the economic value and feasibility of four LFG alternatives: electrical generation, direct use as a boiler fuel, a high Btu pipeline quality gas, and as a hydrogen source for the production of alternative fuels such as dimethyl ether. The economic evaluation concluded that a direct use LFG project would be the most beneficial alternative.

Accordingly, a long-term contract has been negotiated with a nearby industrial facility to utilize the LFG as a medium Btu boiler fuel, and the DWRSWMA is now constructing the transfer system. A unique feature of the project contract is that the industrial user will pay for the LFG based on a discounted NYMEX market rate per each million Btu delivered. This concept allows DWRSWMA to recover a more realistic energy value for the LFG over the project period. In addition, since the LFG extraction and collection systems will be installed prior to meeting the trigger

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mechanism within the NSPS for the facility's Title V permit, carbon dioxide equivalents (CO<sub>2</sub>e) may also be generated by this project.

### 3.1.9 Composting/Mulching

Yard trimmings, such as grass, leaves, and brush, comprise a large part of the waste stream, especially the residential waste stream. Therefore, diverting this material from disposal through mulching and composting can have a significant impact on reducing the waste stream. Since October 1989, the DWRSWMA has been mulching leaves collected by the City of Dalton Department of Public Works and yard trimmings delivered by residents of the cities and unincorporated County to the convenience centers. A mobile tub grinder is used at the Martin Luther King convenience center to produce mulch from brush, yard trimmings, and other wood waste delivered. The mulch is available to residents and City and County agencies at no charge (although there is an \$8.00 charge for loading) and, in 2006, was also used as a bulking agent for the sludge composting operation at Dalton Utilities.

Table 3-9 shows the amount of wood waste and yard trimming mulch distributed from 2002 through 2006. Because Dalton Utilities used the mulch as a bulking agent in 2006, all the mulch generated was used, unlike in prior years.

**Table 3-9**  
**Tons of Mulch**

Year	Tons
2002	5,409
2003	5,435
2004	4,528
2005	3,596
2006	10,172

Also, Dalton Utilities composts approximately 100 tons per day of sludge from their wastewater treatment facilities which allows them to divert this material from disposal. In 2006, Dalton Utilities reduced its disposal costs by more than \$400,000 per year. Harvest Farms is the processor and end-user of the compost.

### 3.1.10 Contingency Strategy

If the City of Dalton DPW was unable to collect recyclables, the City would hire a Contractor to provide these services. In the meantime, residents would be instructed to drop off their recyclables at one of the Authority's convenience centers. If the current processors and markets for recyclables became unavailable, DWRSWMA would look for new processors and markets to handle these materials. The availability of the MRF means that the DWRSWMA can store recyclables, at least on a short-term basis, until existing processors or markets are available again or new ones can be identified.

In the event of a natural disaster or emergency situation that resulted in recycling programs or facilities becoming unavailable, collection of recyclables would be reduced or halted until the disrupted facilities or programs could come back on line.

### 3.2 Goals and Needs

Based on the inventory and assessment described in this Section, the following goals and needs have been identified for this element.

**Goal:** To maintain current per capita waste disposal rates over the planning period despite an expected increase in population and industrial activity.

**Needs:**

- Encourage participation in existing recycling programs.
- Evaluate opportunities to expand residential recycling.
- Work with schools, governments, and other institutions to expand recycling opportunities.
- Work with businesses to expand commercial and industrial waste reduction opportunities.



## Section 4 COLLECTION ELEMENT

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This Section describes the collection programs for solid waste, yard trimmings, and bulky items operating throughout the County. Collection of recyclables is described in Section 3. This Section also includes an evaluation of how the County and cities address illegal dumping and littering and what contingency strategies they have in place to collect waste in unanticipated circumstances. The end of this Section establishes Goals and Needs based on the Inventory and Assessment.

### 4.1 Inventory and Assessment

Whitfield County, the cities of Dalton, Cohutta, and Varnell, the DWRSWMA and the private collectors included in Table 4-1 collect solid waste in Whitfield County. All private Collectors operating in the County are required to have a permit issued by the DWRSWMA.

**Table 4-1  
Solid Waste Collectors Operating in Whitfield County<sup>1</sup>**

Collector Name	Collector Address
Affordable Sales	2208 Cleveland Hwy. Dalton, GA 30721 706-259-8170
Allied Waste	14 Redmond Court Rome, GA 30165 706-235-8503
AMR Environmental	4 E. 3 <sup>rd</sup> St. P. O. Box 21 Rome, GA 30161 706-295-3787
Allied Waste	1018 E. 38 <sup>th</sup> Chattanooga, TN 37407 706-275-9280
Basic Environmental	712 N. Wall Street Calhoun, GA 30701 706-602-0894
Bryant's Waste	772 Bryant Road Chatsworth, GA 30705 706-695-3371
City Disposal	1387 Wisdom St. Chattanooga, TN 37406 423-629-3778

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Collector Name	Collector Address
Columbia Recycling Corp.	1001 Chattanooga Ave. P. O. Box 2101 Dalton, GA 30720 706-278-4701
CycleTex	2104 Fiber Park Dr. #B Dalton, GA 30720 706-226-1116
Elden Hasty Construction	1631 Tunnel Hill Varnell P. O. Box 937 Tunnel Hill, GA 30755-7775 706- 673-6660
Foster's Disposal	822 Holly Creek Dr. Chatsworth, GA 30705 706-695-8934
Lofty's Textile Waste, Inc.	952 Reed Pond Road Dalton, GA 30720 706-259-7736
Mauldin Trash Service	2331 Highway 411 SE Fairmount, GA 30139 706- 337-2603
Mitchell's Disposal	478 Sequoyah Dr. Chatsworth, GA 30705 706-695-0773
Ocoee Environmental Services, Inc.	233 County Road 166 Athens, TN 37303
Polk Brothers Roll-Off.	3372 Chattanooga Rd. #A Tunnel Hill, GA 30755 706-673-2396
Shelton Textile Waste, Inc.	201 Gillespie Drive Dalton, GA 30721 706-278-3008
Super Garbage Services	113 McFalls Street Dalton, GA 30721 706-259-9598
Tennessee Waste Haulers, LLC	2305 Dodson Avenue Chattanooga, TN 37406
Waste Service of Georgia	2207 Industrial S. Road Dalton, GA 30721 706-277-7188

### 4.1.1 Collection in the Incorporated Areas

Residential waste is collected by municipal crews in the Cities of Dalton, Cohutta, and Varnell. In the City of Dalton, the Public Works Department provides weekly collection of household waste and recyclables to approximately 6,200 single-family

homes, accessible condominium complexes and multi-family apartments of three units or less located within the city limits. The City also is responsible for the collection of waste from all City government service buildings. For these services, the City of Dalton is budgeting \$934,559 for 2008 that is collected from users via taxes. Private waste collectors collect waste from larger apartment complexes, Housing Authority units, and commercial/industrial businesses within the City.

The Cities of Cohutta and Varnell provide weekly collection of bagged waste to approximately 266 and 651 households within municipal limits, respectively.

There is no municipal refuse collection in Tunnel Hill. However, residents and businesses can contract directly with permitted private haulers for collection services.

As described in Section 3, curbside collection of recyclables is offered in the City of Dalton but is not offered in any of the other cities unless under separate agreement between private haulers and their customers. Citizens that do not have access to curbside collection of recyclables can bring these materials to one of the DWRSWMA's convenience centers.

#### **4.1.1.1 Yard Trimmings and Bulky Item Collection**

The City of Dalton provides for leaf and brush collection. Leaf collection trucks run continually during the fall months, and brush and rubbish are collected on call. Collected materials are taken to either the Martin Luther King convenience center or the City's inert landfill on Brooker Drive. None of the other cities provide yard waste or bulky item collection but residents can deliver bulky items and yard waste to the convenience centers.

#### **4.1.2 Collection in the Unincorporated County**

All at-the-source collection of MSW, recyclables, yard trimmings, and bulky items in the unincorporated areas of Whitfield County are made between the generator and a permitted hauler. It is estimated that about 40 percent of residents contract with a permitted hauler and the remaining 60 percent haul waste and recyclables to one of the DWRSWMA convenience centers.

An estimated 400,000 trips per year are made to the DWRSWMA convenience centers. The operation of these centers are funded by revenues received at the DWRSWMA Landfill and MRF while the cost to haul and dispose of residential waste from the convenience centers (\$429,649 in 2006) was paid from Whitfield County's general fund.

Curbside collection of recyclables is not offered in the unincorporated County unless under separate agreement between private haulers and their customers.

#### **4.1.2.1 Yard Trimmings and Bulky Item Collection**

Residents of the unincorporated County can deliver yard trimmings and bulky items to one of the convenience centers described in Section 3.

### **4.1.3 Commercial and Industrial Collection**

Neither the City nor the County collects waste from the commercial sector. Businesses, industries, and institutions contract with permitted private collectors for collection of solid waste or haul their waste directly to the landfill.

### **4.1.4 Summary of Collection Programs**

Table 4-2 shows the collection programs operating in the County.

**COLLECTION ELEMENT**

**Table 4-2  
Inventory of Collection Programs<sup>1</sup>**

Type	Collector/ Operator	Program Description	Jurisdictions Served	Sectors Served	No. of Households/ Businesses Served	Contractual Arrangements
Curbside MSW Collection	City of Dalton	MSW - 1x/week Recyclables - 1x/week Bulky items and yard waste - up to 2x/month	Dalton	Residential	6,200	None
Curbside MSW Collection	City of Cohutta	Bagged MSW - 1x/week	Cohutta	Residential	266	None
Curbside MSW Collection	City of Varnell	Bagged MSW - 1x/week	Varnell	Residential	651	None
Curbside MSW Collection	Permitted private collectors	As per contract	Incorporated (apartments and some condominiums) and Unincorporated County	Residential	N/A	Residents arrange for collection with collector of choice
Drop-off MSW Collection at Convenience Centers	DWRSWMA	Bagged MSW Recyclables Bulky items and yard waste	Incorporated and Unincorporated County	Residential	Unknown	None
Commercial MSW Collection	Permitted private collectors	One to seven days per week	Incorporated and Unincorporated County	Commercial	N/A	Entities arrange for collection with collector of choice

<sup>1</sup> Source: Interviews with DWRSWMA Staff

### 4.1.5 Transfer Stations

Transfer stations that operate in Whitfield County must be sited in areas that are approved for such use by the local government zoning ordinances. In addition, government ordinances establish certain design and operating requirements for transfer stations operating within Whitfield County.

EPD's database indicates there are three transfer stations that currently have a permit by rule to operate in Whitfield County. These permits were granted to North Georgia Disposal, Polk Brothers (for C&D materials), and the City of Dalton. However, none of these sites are currently operating as transfer stations. Two of the DWRSWMA's convenience centers received transfer station permits prior to the State's permit by rule process for such facilities.

### 4.1.6 Illegal Dumping/Littering

The Whitfield County Code of Ordinances, specifically Article III, Sections 7-98 – 7-100 (attached in Appendix A), state that it is “unlawful for any person or persons to dump, deposit, throw, or leave or cause or permit these activities on any public or private property in the county“ unless the property has been designated by the County for disposal of litter, such litter is placed into receptacle or container on the property, and the person is the owner or has lawful possession of the property.”

The Code also states that litter thrown from a moving vehicle or unauthorized litter on property containing documentation with name(s) is considered evidence of littering by the vehicle operator or such person(s), respectively.

The Authority employs a code enforcement officer who works with the Sheriff's Department and the Whitfield County Public Works Department to monitor illegal dumping hot spots within the County and bring to justice those violators that are able to be identified.

The magistrate court that is to hear these cases is to, upon conviction, issue punishments that could include a fine between \$100 and \$1,000, the violator having to remove the litter from a public street, highway or right-of-way for a maximum distance of one mile, and/or the violator reimbursing the County for the cost of removing the litter or repairing damaged property. However, because of the caseload of the magistrate courts, these cases typically don't get top priority in many communities.

### 4.1.7 Contingency Strategy

If for some reason the Cities and other contracted collectors are unable to perform their duties, another provider would be contracted to offer collection services within two weeks.

In case of a disaster that generates significant amounts of debris, the County and the Cities would use their existing equipment to collect debris and stage it at County and

City locations until there is time to transport it to the Authority's Landfill. This approach has been used successfully to clean up debris from past storms, and staging locations have already been identified. If needed, the County and Cities would contract with collectors to expand collection capabilities. As shown in Table 4-1, there are several collectors already operating in the County.

The County would use its web site and radio, where available, and post flyers to announce schedules for debris removal from unincorporated areas.

## 4.2 Goals and Needs

Based on the inventory and assessment described in this Section, the following goals and needs have been identified for this element.

**Goal:** To provide consistent and universal access to collection services for solid waste to all citizens in Whitfield County.

**Needs:**

- Ensure that the DWRSWMA has sufficient oversight of collection to ensure solid waste management goals are met and that collection protects public health and the environment.
- Offer curbside collection in incorporated areas.
- Periodically evaluate the need for curbside collection in other areas of the County.
- Ensure convenience centers can handle anticipated tonnages/traffic in a cost-effective manner.

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## Section 5 DISPOSAL ELEMENT

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This Section describes the disposal facilities located in the County. This Section also demonstrates assurance of disposal capacity throughout the planning period as required by the Minimum Planning Standards and Procedures. The Section ends with an identification of Goals and Needs for solid waste disposal.

### 5.1 Inventory and Assessment

Prior to 1994, the City of Dalton and Whitfield County had a joint solid waste management department. This department's primary responsibility was to develop and operate a landfill for disposal of waste generated in Whitfield County. The City of Dalton and Whitfield County formed the DWRSWMA in December 1994. Currently, the DWRSWMA operates the only active solid waste disposal facilities in the County, including one Subtitle D landfill and one industrial landfill. The location of these facilities, along with the three other convenience centers located throughout the County (see Section 3), is shown on Figure 5-1, and they are described in more detail below. Figure 5-2 shows an aerial photograph of the Old Dixie Landfill facilities. According to local ordinances passed by the City of Dalton in 2007 and Whitfield County in 2008, all solid waste collected by permitted haulers within the incorporated and unincorporated areas of the County must deliver the solid waste to designated facilities. Currently, the DWRSWMA facilities are the designated facilities for the disposal of all solid waste collected in the County (including the cities).

#### 5.1.1 Operating DWRSWMA Disposal Facilities

The Old Dixie Municipal Solid Waste Landfill, EPD permit number 155-047D(SL), is the primary disposal location for the DWRSWMA. The current area, Phase 6, is a lined Subtitle D landfill that sits on 1,200 acres of contiguous land and has an 88.9-acre footprint. To date, 54 of the total 88.9 acre footprint has been developed as the Subtitle D Landfill.

The next major effort for landfill development is to occur in 2008 with the construction of a 12.2-acre area (cell 4) in the Subtitle D Landfill. While part of the cell construction will be contracted to outside sources, approximately 80 percent of the work will be performed using DWRSWMA's own staff and equipment.

The landfill is open 7:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m., Monday through Friday, and 7:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. on Saturday. The landfill receives approximately 451 tons of MSW per

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day,<sup>1</sup> and the permitted area is expected to reach capacity in the year 2045 at the current disposal rate. In 2007, the tip fee for waste is \$31.65 per ton (although the rate is variable depending on the volume or contracted rates).

Other phases at the Old Dixie Landfill include 2, 4 and 5, totaling 113 acres that are now in post-closure care.

In the early 1990's, DWRSWMA found after several waste audits that 60 percent of their waste stream came from the carpet industry, much of it inert carpet waste that has a low potential for impacting the environment. It was decided that monofilling baled carpet waste in unlined cells would reduce construction costs, cover requirements, equipment maintenance, and allow for potential future resource recovery of the baled carpet. DWRSWMA partnered with the local carpet industry and offered a discounted rate for the delivery of baled carpet scraps (selvedge) so that the material could be diverted to the permitted carpet balefill. EPD initially permitted the first balefill cell as a minor modification to the Old Dixie Landfill permit, however the current balefill (monofill) has its own permit, 155-048D(LI). The current phase is a 29-acre site.

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<sup>1</sup> Source: Remaining MSW Capacity Report, September 2007.

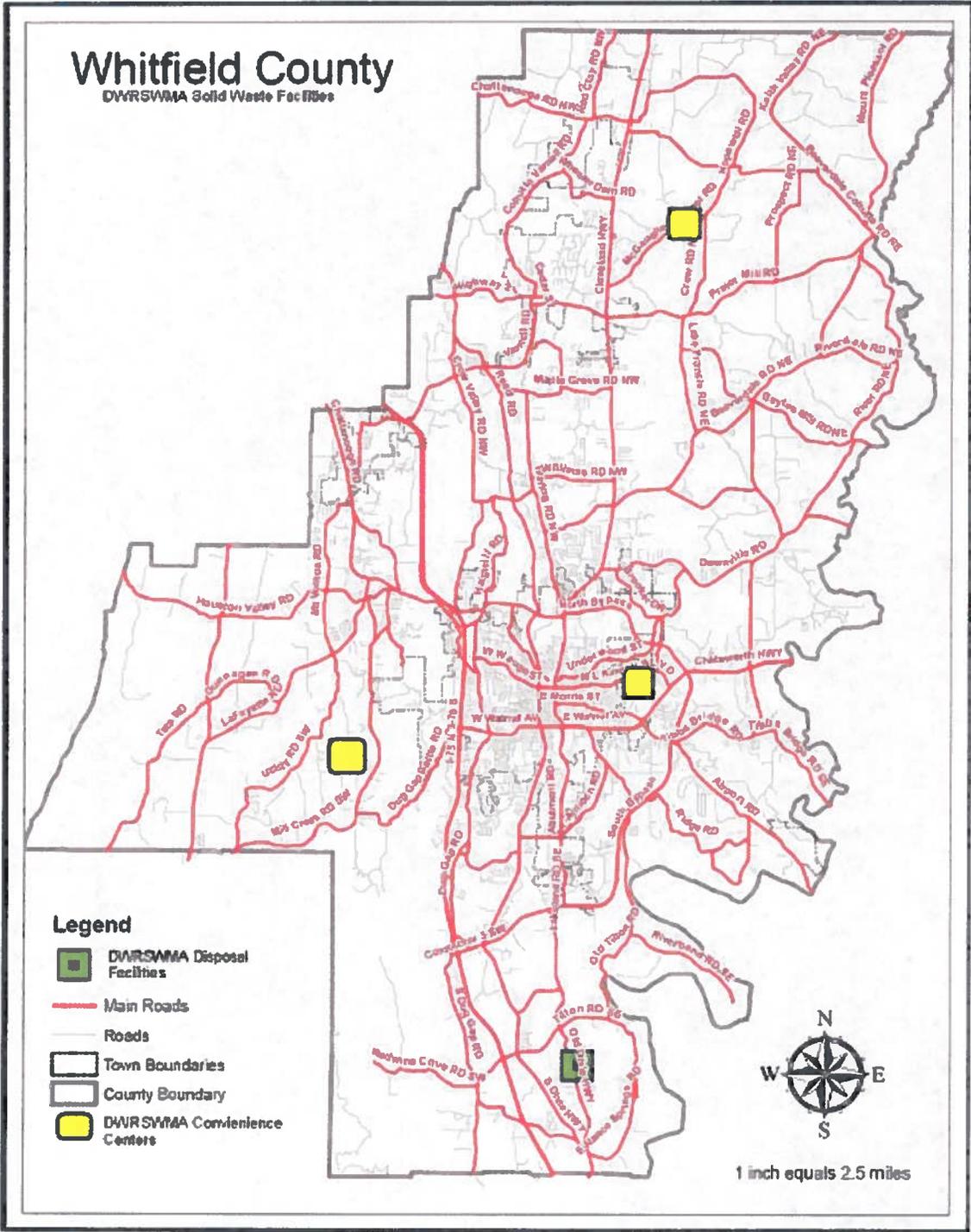


Figure 5-1: DWRSWMA Disposal Facilities in Whitfield County



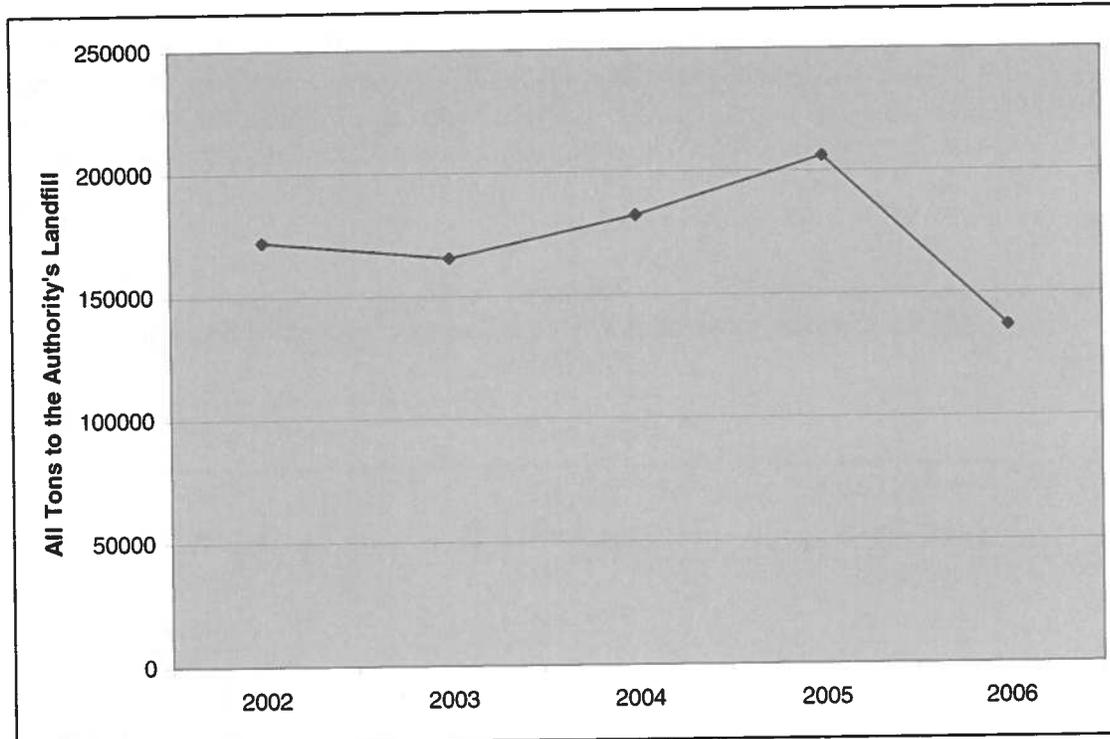
Figure 5-2: Aerial Photograph of the Old Dixie Highway Facility

Scalehouse records show that in 2006, the DWRSWMA MSW landfill received a total of 136,849 tons of waste and the industrial landfill (balefill) received 20,389 tons. Table 5-1 shows the amount and origin of waste received at Whitfield County's solid waste disposal facilities in 2006. The tonnages indicate that small amounts of waste, 3.7 percent and 7.1 percent to the MSW and Industrial Landfills, respectively came from outside of Whitfield County in 2006.

**Table 5-1**  
**Origin of Waste Received at Whitfield County Disposal Facilities**  
**2006 Tons**

	MSW Landfill	Industrial Landfill
Whitfield County	131,812	18,950
Out of County	4,188	1,439
Out of State	849	0
<b>Total</b>	<b>136,849</b>	<b>20,389</b>

Figure 5-3 shows the amount of waste disposed in at the DWRSWMA Landfill over the past several years. The Figure shows that 2006 tonnage received at the Authority's landfill was lower than in the four previous years. The Authority attributes this to the fact that MSW generated in Whitfield County was delivered to landfills outside the County. Some of this tonnage was likely reported as being generated from counties other than Whitfield County. On the other hand, in 2005, the Authority landfill received more tonnage than in prior years and 69,008 tons more than in 2006. In this case, the Authority believes that waste from other counties was delivered to the Authority landfill.



Source: EPD Municipal Solid Waste Landfill Reported Tonnage Data for Whitfield County

**Figure 5-3: Waste Disposed at the DWRSWMA MSW Landfill  
2002 through 2006**

### 5.1.2 Other Landfills in Whitfield County

In addition to the DWRSWMA MSW and industrial landfill, there are also 14 inert disposal facilities listed by Georgia EPD as shown in Table 5-2 below. These inert facilities accept only earth or earth-like materials (e.g. concrete, cured asphalt, untreated wood, etc.) and are often sited on private industry or citizens' land for the sole use of the land owner.

**Table 5-2  
Inert Disposal Facilities**

Facility Name	Permit Number
Whitfield Co-Westside Convenience Center Inert Landfill	PBR-155-27IL
Clifford Price Inert Landfill	PBR-155-09IL
Green Construction Company-Gaylord Circle Inert Lf	PBR-155-01IL
William Fields Airport Road Inert Landfill	PBR-155-05IL
Cook & Ingle Co., Inc.	PBR-155-06IL
Elwood J. Pettit	PBR-155-12IL
Delilah King Soil Waste Pit	PBR-155-20IL
Charles Baker Soil Waste Pit	PBR-155-21IL
Larry Hardin Soil Waste Pit	PBR-155-22IL
Buddy Green D.B.A. Green Construction Company	PBR-155-03IL
Thomas Holcomb Soil Waste Pit	PBR-155-19IL
City Of Dalton	PBR-155-02IL
City Of Dalton Brooker Road Inert Landfill	PBR-155-04IL
Q & A Realty Soil Waste Pit	PBR-155-23IL

In addition to these active, permitted landfills, Georgia EPD lists eight closed landfills located in the County. All were owned and operated by the Authority except the Brooker Drive site, which is owned by the City of Dalton.

**Table 5-3  
Closed Landfills in Whitfield County, 2006**

Facility Name	Permit Number	Landfill Type
Dalton - Westside Rocky Face- Ph 2	155-033D(SL)	Sanitary Landfill
Dalton - Waugh St Ph 1	155-034D(L)	Dry Trash Landfill
Dalton - Waugh St Ph 2	155-037D(L)	Dry Trash Landfill
Dalton - McGaughey Ch/Coahulla Crk	155-043D(L)	Dry Trash Landfill
Dalton - Old Dixie Hwy Ph 2 (SL)	155-021D(SL)	Sanitary Landfill
Dalton - Old Dixie Hwy Ph 4 (SL)	155-027D(SL)	Sanitary Landfill
Dalton - Old Dixie Hwy Ph 5 (SL)	155-044D(SL)	Sanitary Landfill
Dalton - Brooker Dr Site	GAD980495147	Sanitary Landfill

### 5.1.3 Other Disposal Facilities Receiving County Waste

Based on disposal reports provided to EPD from solid waste disposal facilities, 20 percent of the MSW collected in Whitfield County was disposed in three other municipal solid waste landfills in 2006 (Table 5-4). This is a 13 percent increase over 2005. Also, DWRSWMA staff has reported anecdotally that waste is disposed at the Athens (TN) Landfill directly via Ocoee Environmental Services and at the Sand Valley Landfill (AL) via Allied Waste who drops Whitfield County waste off at their Collinsville, Tennessee transfer station before it is hauled to Alabama for disposal.

**Table 5-4  
Other Municipal Solid Waste Landfills Accepting Waste from  
Whitfield County, 2006<sup>1</sup>**

County	Facility Name	EPD Permit Number	Tons Delivered	Year Expected to Reach Capacity
Murray	Westside Site 2	105-014D	21,846	2011 <sup>2</sup>
Gordon	Redbone Ridges Road	064-016D	11,214	2184
Bradley (TN)	Bradley County Landfill	NA	697	Unknown
Bradley (TN)	Athens Landfill	NA	Unknown	Unknown
Dekalb (AL)	Sand Valley Landfill	NA	Unknown	Unknown

<sup>1</sup> 2006 Landfill Reports, Georgia EPD and TDEC.

<sup>2</sup> This facility was expanded in 2007, so the estimated life will be beyond 2011.

C&D waste is currently disposed in the MSW Landfill. Based on records from the scale house, the DWRSWMA estimates that 10,589 tons of the 136,849 tons disposed into the MSW Landfill in 2006 were C&D materials. However, it is likely that additional C&D from the County is being disposed at other facilities. No Georgia facilities reported to EPD that they were accepting C&D generated in Whitfield County but the DWRSWMA has anecdotal reports that some C&D from the County is being disposed in Tennessee.

### 5.1.4 Assurance of 10-Year Capacity

According to the waste projections included in Section 2, it is projected that an average of 192,162 tons will be disposed in the DWRSWMA landfill each year, with any increase in waste resulting from an increase in population and economic activity being offset by increased waste reduction efforts. The result is that an estimated 1,921,620 tons of waste is projected to be disposed by Whitfield County at the DWRSWMA landfill during the planning period assuming that all Whitfield County waste is delivered to this facility. Based on the competition for waste in landfills in surrounding counties, the Authority believes that a minimal amount of MSW will be delivered from other counties.

The most recent capacity report for the Landfill, prepared in September 2007, indicated that 8,307,638 cubic yards of permitted airspace remained in the Authority's Landfill. Given the Authority's waste density of 1,250 pounds per cubic yard, this

equates to a total capacity for 5,192,274 tons of waste. Thus, the DWRSWMA Landfill has more than enough capacity to handle all the MSW disposed from Whitfield County through the planning period.

Appendix B contains a letter from the Old Dixie Landfill stating that it has the capacity to accept all the MSW disposed from Whitfield County generators over the next ten years.

### **5.1.5 Contingency Strategy**

There are several landfills available to accept Whitfield County's waste as evidenced by the fact that two out-of-county landfills currently report that they accept MSW from the County. In the event that the Authority's Landfill becomes unavailable, the DWRSWMA would solicit proposals from disposal facilities to accept the waste from the Cities and County until the Authority's Landfill becomes available again. This effort could be accomplished within a few days.

In the event of a natural or man-made disaster, the County and the Cities would use their existing equipment to collect debris and stage it at County and City locations until there is time to transport it to the Authority's facilities. As much material as possible would be diverted to DWRSWMA's MRF or be chipped and mulched at the MLK convenience center. The remainder would be disposed at the DWRSWMA Landfill. This approach has been used successfully to clean up debris from past storms, and staging locations have already been identified.

The County would use its web site and radio, where available, and post flyers to announce schedules for debris removal from unincorporated areas.

## **5.2 Goals and Needs**

Based on the inventory and assessment described in this Section, the following goals and needs have been identified for this element.

**Goal:** To ensure that solid waste handling facilities have capacity to handle all solid waste generated in the County, do not negatively impact the natural environment or public health, and are consistent with the Plan.

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### Needs:

- Divert recyclables, baled carpet, and other materials, when feasible, from the Subtitle D landfill to maximize landfill life.
- Expand existing landfill as needed to ensure sufficient capacity.
- Monitor solid waste handling facilities located in the County to ensure they are operated in a manner that protects public health and the environment and are consistent with the Plan.
- Ensure that solid waste generated in Whitfield County is managed in Whitfield County
- Ensure revenues fully cover the costs of an integrated solid waste management system.

## Section 6

# LAND LIMITATION ELEMENT

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This Section outlines the land limitations, policies and procedures that the DWRSWMA will consider when evaluating a new solid waste management facility or the expansion of an existing solid waste management facility.

## 6.1 Natural Environmental Limitations

The DWRSWMA uses the State's guidelines for environmental factors regarding facility siting. Federal and State policies contain restrictions on where in Whitfield County solid waste facilities can be sited and, in some cases, the design and operation requirements to site facilities in a specific area. Some of these restrictions are based on natural environmental features such as those described below.

- Floodplains - DNR Rule 391-3-4-.05(1)(d) stipulates that any solid waste landfill located in the 100-year floodplain shall not restrict the flow of the 100-year flood, reduce the temporary water storage capacity of the flood plain, or result in a washout of solid waste so as to pose a threat to human health or the environment.
- Wetlands - DNR Rule 391-3-4-.05(1)(e) prohibits the development of solid waste landfills in wetlands, as defined by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, unless evidence is provided by the applicant that use of the wetland has been permitted or otherwise authorized under all other applicable state and federal laws and rules.
- Water Supply Watersheds - DNR Rule 391-3-16-.10(7)c1 requires that at any location within a small water supply watershed, new solid waste landfills must have synthetic liners and leachate collection systems.
- Groundwater Recharge Areas – DNR Rule 391-3-16-.02(3)(a) requires that in a significant groundwater recharge area, DNR shall not issue permits for new solid waste landfills not having synthetic liner and leachate collection systems. DNR Rule 391-3-4-.05(1)(j) requires new solid waste landfills or expansions of existing facilities within two miles of a significant groundwater recharge area to have liners and leachate collection systems, with the exception of facilities accepting waste generated from outside the county in which the facility is located. In that case, the facility must be totally outside of any area designated as a significant groundwater recharge area.
- River Corridors - DNR Rule 391-3-16.04 prohibits the development of new solid waste landfills within protected river corridors. For purposes of the rule, a river corridor is defined as that area being within 100 feet horizontally on both sides of a state-defined protected river (average annual flow of at least 400 cubic feet per

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second) as measured from the river banks. Protected rivers are required to have a River Corridor Protection Plan as part of the local Comprehensive Plan.

- Protected Mountains - DNR Rule 391-3-16.05(4)(1) prohibits the development of new solid waste landfills in areas designated as protected mountains. There are no protected mountains in the County.
- Fault Zones, Seismic Impact Zones, and Unstable Areas (Karst Areas) - A hydro-geological assessment must be conducted at the location of any proposed solid waste disposal facility. Such an assessment must be performed under the direction of a registered geologist or professional engineer. Technical issues which involve seismic activity, fault lines, unstable areas, such as karst areas must be evaluated in the preliminary site selection phase. Any condition that would likely result in a release of pollution from a site may not receive EPD approval during the solid waste handling permitting process, unless mitigating or supplemental protection is provided.

DNR Rule 391-3-4-.05(1)(f) requires that new landfill units and lateral expansions of existing landfills not be located within 200 feet of a fault that has had a displacement in Holocene time, unless an alternative setback distance of less than 200 feet will prevent damage to the structural integrity of the landfill and will protect human health and the environment.

DNR Rule 391-3-4-.05(1)(g) prohibits the development of new landfills and lateral expansions of existing landfills in seismic impact zones, unless all landfill containment structures, including existing landfill liners, leachate collection systems, and surface water control systems, are designed to resist the maximum horizontal acceleration in lithified earth material for the site.

According to DNR Rule 391-3-4-.05(1)(h), existing landfills and lateral expansions of existing landfills located in an unstable area must demonstrate that engineering measures have been incorporated into the landfill's design to ensure that the integrity of the structural components of the landfill will not be compromised.

Figure 6-1, provided by the Georgia Department of Community Affairs, indicates the areas in Whitfield County impacted by environmental limitations, as well as those impacted by some of the land use limitations described in Section 6.2.

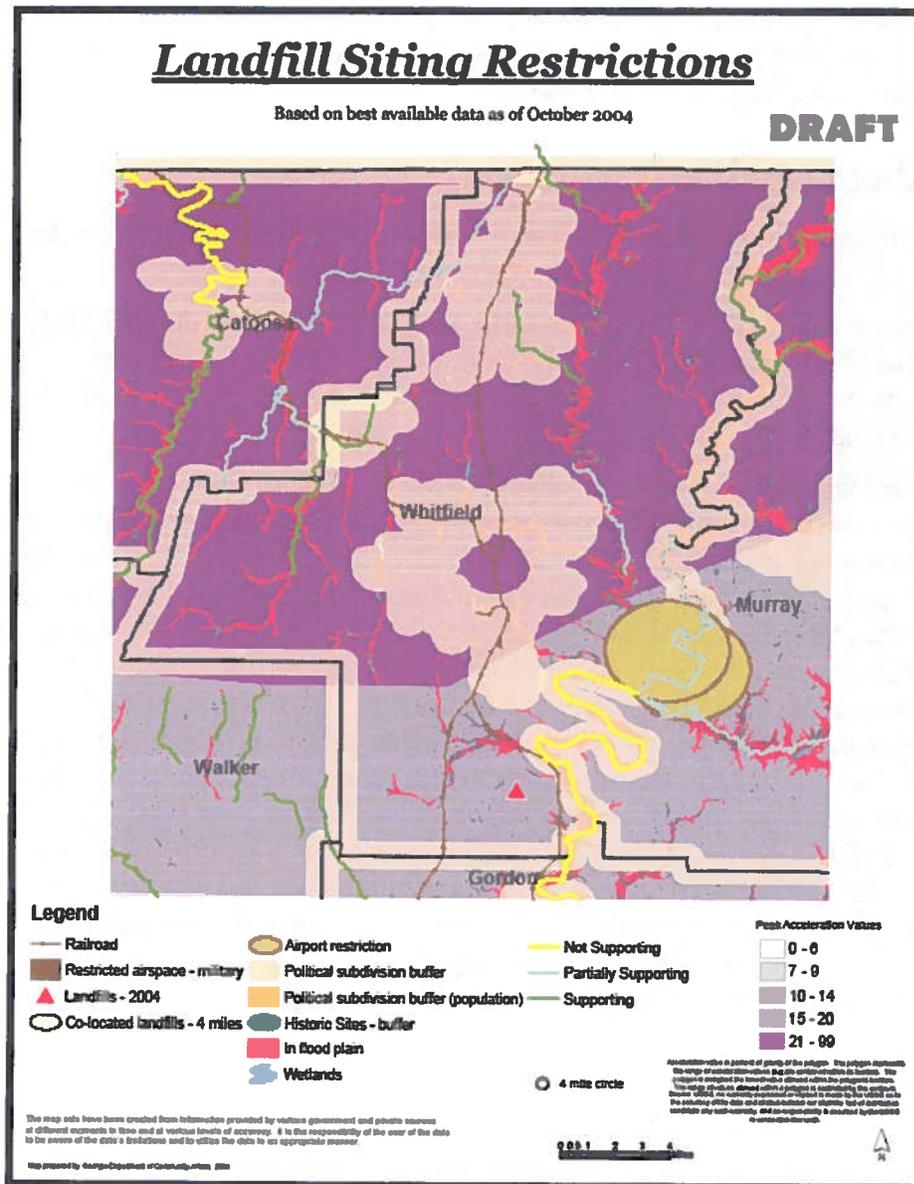


Figure 6-1: Landfill Siting Restrictions in Whitfield County

## 6.2 Zoning and Land Use Limitations

### 6.2.1 Zoning Restrictions

DNR Rule 391-3-4-.05(1)(a) requires that solid waste facility sites must conform to all local zoning/land use ordinances. The County has a zoning ordinance that allows solid waste landfill siting in a general agricultural district as a special use. Solid waste transfer stations are permitted as a special use in the general agricultural, light manufacturing and heavy manufacturing districts provided that the facility design and

## Section 6

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operation meets certain requirements. The zoning ordinance also requires that any solid waste handling facility<sup>1</sup> be consistent with this Plan. Similar language has been passed or is proposed for the cities' zoning ordinances, also. The current Whitfield County Zoning Map is included as Figure 6-2.

### 6.2.2 Other Land Use Restrictions

State and federal restrictions for siting solid waste facilities based on land uses include:

- National Historic Sites - MSW landfills are not permitted within 5,708 yards of a National Historic Site (O.C.G.A. Section 12-8-25.1). There are only three designated National Historic Sites in the State that are included in this restriction and none are in Whitfield County.
- Archaeological Sites - The Archaeological Resources Protection Act of 1979 requires federal agencies or local governments utilizing federal funds to conduct archaeological investigations on lands under their jurisdiction to determine the nature and extent of the protected cultural resources present. Therefore, no solid waste handling facility should be located so as to negatively impact an area of concentrated or known archaeological sites on file with the Georgia Archaeological Site File (GASF). Located at the University of Georgia, the GASF is the official repository for information about known archaeological sites in the state of Georgia. Because specific information concerning the location and contents of archaeological sites is protected by Georgia Law (O.C.G.A. 50-18-72 [a][10]), direct access to the complete information held by the GASF is restricted to qualified archaeologists and archaeology students. If a facility siting has the potential to impact an area of concentrated or known archaeological sites, then consultation with the State Archaeologist and the State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) would be required.

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<sup>1</sup> A solid waste handling facility is defined in the zoning ordinance as "Any facility, the primary purpose of which is the storage, collection, transportation, treatment, utilization, processing, or disposal, or any combination thereof, of solid waste. This term encompasses the terms *Solid Waste Landfill*, *Inert Waste Landfill* and *Transfer Station*."

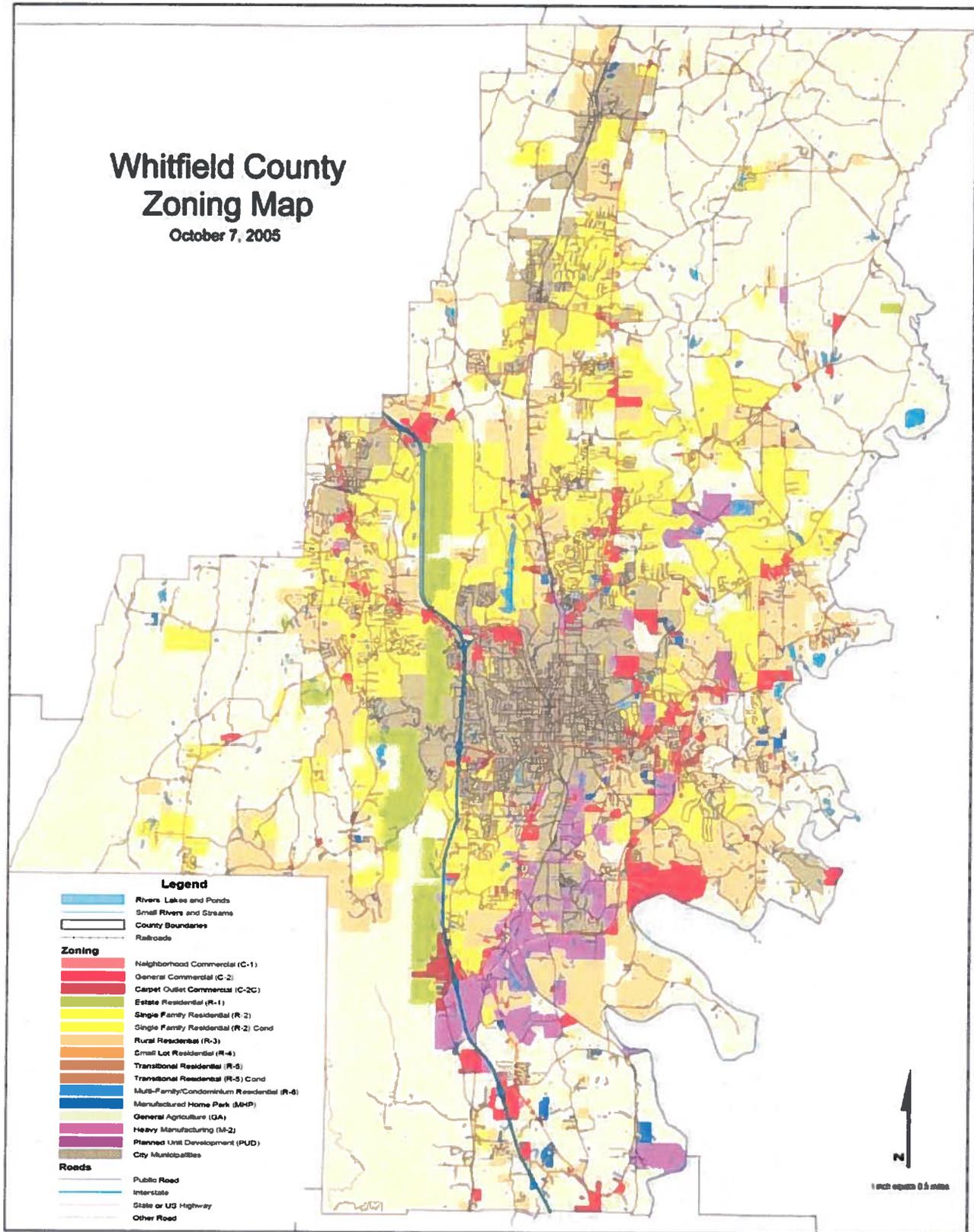


Figure 6-2: Zoning Map of Whitfield County

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- **Surface Water Intake** - According to the Georgia DNR Rule 391-3-16-.01, unless there are no other feasible locations, solid waste landfills should not be located within two miles of a surface water intake for a public water source.
- **Airport Safety** - DNR Rule 391-3-4-.05(1)(c) requires that new solid waste landfill units or lateral expansions of existing units shall not be within 5,000 feet of any runway planned or used for piston-type aircraft or within 10,000 feet of any runway planned or used for turbo-jet or piston-type aircraft. Figure 6-1, provided by the Georgia Department of Community Affairs, indicates the land in Whitfield County impacted by siting restrictions for MSW and C&D landfills, including this requirement for airport safety.
- **Co-Located Landfills** - Section 12-8-25.4 of the O.C.G.A. states that no solid waste handling facility, excluding materials recovery facilities and composting facilities, can be sited on a site that falls within a two-mile radius of three or more solid waste landfills (including closed landfills that received waste on or after June 29, 1989). Figure 6-1 indicates the areas in the County impacted by this requirement.
- **Political Subdivisions** - O.G.G.A. Section 12-8-25 prohibits the siting of an MSW landfill within one-half mile of another County's borders without the approval of the jurisdiction's governing authority. Whitfield County borders four other counties within Georgia.
- **Private Recreational Camps** - O.C.G.A Section 12-8-25.5 states that no permit shall be issued for any new municipal solid waste disposal facility if any part of the premises proposed for permitting is within one mile of any private recreational camp operated primarily for use by persons under 18 years of age and which camp has been so operated at its location for 25 years or more.

### 6.3 Local Procedures for Siting Solid Waste Facilities

No proposed solid waste handling facility or facility expansion will be sited in Whitfield County without a letter from the County Commission or within municipal boundaries, the governing body of the municipality, stating that the proposed facility is consistent with the current DWRSWMA Plan. The procedure for determining whether a proposed facility or facility expansion is consistent with the current Plan is as follows:

1. At least 90 days prior to filing for a solid waste handling permit, or notifying EPD in the case of a solid waste handling facility that is permitted by rule, the owner/operator will submit to the DWRSWMA a written statement documenting the following:
  - How the proposed facility or facility expansion will meet the specific goals and/or needs identified in the current DWRSWMA Plan, including a description of:
    - The impact upon the collection capability within the County;
    - The impact upon disposal capacity identified in the County; and

- The impact to the waste reduction and recycling efforts within the County, specifically how the proposed facility or facility expansion will further progress toward the County's waste reduction goal.
  - How the proposed facility or facility expansion and its operation will impact the community. Specifically what will be:
    - The impact to vehicle traffic and public safety around the proposed facility and throughout the County;
    - The impact on natural or cultural resources within the County;
    - The impact to the financial viability of the existing solid waste management system within the County;
    - The impact to individual and business solid waste management rates; and
    - The impact on the current solid waste management infrastructure within the County, both public and private.
  - Evidence that the proposed facility or facility expansion is sited in an area deemed suitable according to the criteria listed in the Plan.
  - Evidence that the proposed facility expansion is sited in a location that is consistent with local zoning ordinances.
  - That the proper public notification was given, including notification of all adjacent property owners.
2. Within 45 days after the written statement from the owner/operator is received, the DWRSWMA Board will make a recommendation as to whether the proposed facility or facility expansion is consistent with the Plan. This recommendation will be documented in a letter to the governing body of the jurisdiction in which the proposed facility or facility expansion is sited. To make this determination, the DWRSWMA Board will hold at least one public hearing on the proposed facility or facility expansion to gather input regarding the consistency of the facility with the current Plan. This public hearing will be advertised according to local requirements regarding public notification of public hearings.
3. The governing body of the jurisdiction in which the proposed facility or facility expansion is sited shall review the written documentation of consistency from the owner/operator, the recommendation of the DWRSWMA Board, and comments received at the public hearing to determine whether the proposed facility or facility expansion is consistent with the current DWRSWMA Plan. Within 30 days of making their determination the governing body shall notify the facility owner/operator whether or not the proposed facility or facility expansion is consistent with the current Plan. If the proposed facility is consistent with the current Plan, the governing body will issue a letter of consistency. If the proposed facility is not consistent with the current Plan, the owner/operator may address the inconsistencies and resubmit their request for another review.

## 6.4 Goals and Needs

Based on the inventory and assessment described in this Section, the following goals and needs have been identified for this element.

**Goal:** To ensure that proposed solid waste handling facilities and expansions are consistent with environmental requirements, local land use plans, and this Plan.

**Needs:**

- Ensure that proposed facilities or facility expansions comply with State and local environmental siting requirements.
- Ensure that all proposed solid waste handling facilities or facility expansions follow the procedure for approval established in this Plan.

# Section 7 EDUCATION AND PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT ELEMENT

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This Section describes the public education and involvement programs that the County and the Cities use to let the public know about solid waste collection, reduction, and disposal in their communities.

## 7.1 Inventory and Assessment

The DWRSWMA houses the local Keep America Beautiful affiliate, Keep Dalton-Whitfield Beautiful, Inc., (KDWB) which is the primary conduit for solid waste public education in Whitfield County. KDWB has access to state and national resources and networking opportunities as an affiliate of Keep Georgia Beautiful, under the Georgia Department of Community Affairs, and as a certified Keep America Beautiful affiliate. KDWB receives some funding through sponsorship donations, but DWRSWMA funds the KDWB staff, programs and educational materials.

With the assistance of KDWB, the DWRSWMA educates students, the general public, and local businesses and industry about solid waste management. Brochures, flyers, a website, Power Point presentations, local radio and television spots are all common tools utilized by DWRSWMA to provide information and education about solid waste management and recycling. A state-of-the-art hands-on education classroom is located on the second floor of the MRF and provides visiting students, garden clubs, civic groups, etc. the opportunity to view the daily operations of a recycling center.

KDWB and DWRSWMA provide local schools with environmental education materials and visit the classrooms to discuss the importance of proper solid waste management, recycling, and the environment.

The DWRSWMA and KDWB make solid waste issues more visible to industry through:

- Seminars on solid waste topics;
- Recycling programs;
- Commercial recycling grid publication in the local phone book;
- Field trips to the local landfill;
- Seminar presenting products developed from post-consumer materials; and
- Solid Waste Issues Forum in cooperation with the Georgia Recycling Coalition.

## Section 7

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The DWRSWMA provides public education and presentations to hospital administrators, dental and doctors associations, and home health care groups about the proper management of medical waste. It provides information on local waste acceptance, procedures for handling, State and federal regulations, and costs.

Additional partnerships with Dalton College, Dalton Utilities, Department of Natural Resources, local business and industry, public/private schools, churches, and scouts make it possible to provide public education to residents, schools, churches, and civic organizations through:

- Speakers' bureau presentations;
- Keep America Beautiful Curriculum training of teachers on waste reduction and separation, litter reduction, and beautification;
- Environmental display cabinet in public buildings;
- Radio and television PSAs;
- Newsletters; and
- Field trips to the landfill and transfer station.

Some community events that focus on waste reduction and solid waste include:

- Adoption cleanup programs for roadways, parks, streams, and the Conasauga River;
- Recycling campaigns for telephone books (Throw the Book at Ben) and Christmas trees (Bring One for the Chipper);
- Community Pride Day; and
- Recognition through gift presentations of T-shirts, cups, caps, and stickers is conducted throughout the year to schools, civic organizations and program volunteers.

The DWRSWMA serves as a clearinghouse for information concerning solid waste management. It has purchased videos on recycling, landfilling, composting, and other topics which can be loaned to those who request them. The DWRSWMA has purchased a large piece of composting equipment and has advertised its composting program in the local newspaper and in television. Compost is free to the citizens of Whitfield County.

The City of Dalton conducts public education programs to encourage proper participation in their curbside recycling program. This consists of "how-to" brochures, stickers, and a hot-line number for questions.

In addition to providing public education to its citizens, the DWRSWMA involves the public in making decisions about solid waste management. The Authority formed a Solid Waste Advisory Committee (SWAC) to assist in the update of this Plan. The SWAC was comprised of representatives from each of the local governments, generating businesses, education centers, applicable special interest groups and general citizenry. The SWAC was created to be a sounding board for the Authority's main ideas and provided much insight on local solid waste issues.

## **EDUCATION AND PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT ELEMENT**

A sample of the educational materials described in these Sections is included in Appendix C.

Table 7-1 describes the public education and involvement activities supported by the DWRSWMA.

**Table 7-1  
KDWB/DWRSWMA Major Waste Reduction/Recycling Education  
and Outreach Programs – FY 2006**

<b>Program/Project</b>	<b>Jurisdictions Covered</b>	<b>Target Audience</b>
Presentations and Educational Materials	County	Schools, Community Groups, Businesses
Web site	County	General public
Brochures	County	General public
Radio and Cable Broadcasts	County	All residents
Newspaper Announcements	County	General public
Newsletter	DWRSWMA	Employees
School Newsletter	County	Schools
Bring One for the Chipper	County	General public
Great American Clean Up	County	General public
Conasauga River Clean Up	County	General public
Community Pride Day	County	All residents
Throw the Book at Ben	County	Schools
Field Trips with On-Site Classroom	County	Schools, Community Groups

Costs of education and public involvement programs include salaries and travel expenses for staff involved in education and public involvement programs. Other costs involve expenses associated with preparation of brochures, videos, and other educational materials and sponsorships of local activities. For 2006, the DWRSWMA budgeted \$70,000 for recycling and education programs.

## 7.2 Goals and Needs

Based on the inventory and assessment described in this Section, the following goals and needs have been identified for this element.

**Goal:** To ensure that all citizens of the County and cities have access to information about waste reduction and solid waste management.

**Needs:**

- Provide resources for public education activities.
- Expand avenues for education of the residential, commercial and industrial sectors.
- Ensure that residents and businesses understand how to comply with federal, state, and local solid waste management policies.

## Section 8

# IMPLEMENTATION STRATEGY

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### 8.1 Roles and Responsibilities

The DWRSWMA, jointly formed by the City of Dalton and Whitfield County, will continue to have the primary responsibility for implementing most elements of this Plan. The DWRSWMA recommends ordinances to the City Council and County Commission and adopts policies and procedures consistent with these ordinances. The DWRSWMA also prepares a budget each year that is approved by the Authority Board of Directors.

The DWRSWMA will continue to operate solid waste management facilities located in the County including an MSW landfill, a balefill, a MRF, a HHW collection facility, convenience centers, an inert landfill, and a wetlands mitigation bank. The DWRSWMA will also continue to collect recyclables at the convenience centers, at schools, and in the Downtown Dalton Development District. The DWRSWMA will continue to process and market recyclables and take the lead role in public education programs about recycling and solid waste management.

The cities of Dalton, Cohutta, and Varnell will continue to take the lead in arranging for collection of MSW (and in the case of Dalton, recyclables) from its residents. All other collection of MSW that takes place at the generator's location will be arranged by the generator. The DWRSWMA will ensure that these collectors are permitted and adhere to the terms of the permit as defined in City and County ordinances and the DWRSWMA policies and procedures.

### 8.2 Summary of Goals and Needs

This Section provides an implementation strategy to meet the goals and needs identified in Sections 3 through 7 of this Plan. The goals and needs, upon which this implementation strategy is based, are summarized in Table 8-1.

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**Table 8-1  
Solid Waste Management Goals and Needs  
Dalton-Whitfield Regional Solid Waste Management Authority (DWRSWMA)**

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### WASTE REDUCTION

**Goal:** To maintain a constant annual disposal tonnage over the planning period despite an expected increase in population and industrial activity.

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#### Needs

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- Encourage participation in existing recycling programs.
  - Evaluate opportunities to expand residential recycling.
  - Work with schools, governments, and other institutions to expand recycling opportunities.
  - Work with businesses to expand commercial and industrial waste reduction opportunities.
- 

### COLLECTION

**Goal:** To provide consistent and universal access to collection services for solid waste to all citizens in Whitfield County.

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#### Needs

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- Ensure that the DWRSWMA has sufficient oversight of collection to ensure solid waste management goals are met and that collection protects public health and the environment.
  - Offer curbside collection in incorporated areas.
  - Periodically evaluate the need for curbside collection in other areas of the County.
  - Ensure convenience centers can handle anticipated tonnages/traffic in a cost-effective manner.
- 

### DISPOSAL

**Goal:** To ensure that solid waste handling facilities have capacity to handle all solid waste generated in the County, do not negatively impact the natural environment or public health, and are consistent with the Solid Waste Management Plan.

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#### Needs

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- Divert recyclables, baled carpet, and other materials, when feasible, from the Subtitle D landfill to maximize landfill life.
  - Expand existing landfill as needed to ensure sufficient capacity.
  - Monitor solid waste handling facilities located in the County to ensure they are operated in a manner that protects public health and the environment and are consistent with the Plan.
  - Ensure that solid waste generated in Whitfield County is managed in Whitfield County.
  - Ensure revenues fully cover the costs of an integrated solid waste management system.
-

## LAND LIMITATION

**Goal:** To ensure that proposed solid waste handling facilities and expansions are consistent with environmental requirements, local land use plans, and this Plan

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### Needs

- Ensure that proposed facilities or facility expansions comply with State and local environmental siting requirements.
  - Ensure that all proposed solid waste handling facilities or facility expansions follow the procedure for approval established in this Plan.
- 

## PUBLIC EDUCATION AND INFORMATION

**Goal:** To ensure that all citizens of the County and cities have access to information about waste reduction and solid waste management.

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### Needs

- Provide resources for public education activities.
  - Expand avenues for education of the residential, commercial and industrial sectors.
  - Ensure that residents and businesses understand how to comply with federal, state, and local solid waste management policies.
- 

## 8.3 Implementation Strategy

The implementation strategy identifies the activities that the DWRSWMA will undertake to meet the goals and needs identified over the next ten years, from November 1, 2008 through October 31, 2018. Activities in the first five years constitute the Short Term Work Program. Because the DWRSWMA is already operating a large number of facilities and programs, many of the activities to be implemented over the ten year planning period involve continuation of existing facilities and programs. However, some of the key new initiatives include expansion of recycling programs, enforcement of collector permit requirements, and operation of a landfill gas recovery system. The details of these initiatives are described below.

### 8.3.1 Expansion of Recycling Programs

In 2002, the DWRSWMA opened a MRF to divert residential and industrial MSW from the Subtitle D landfill. In each subsequent year, the MRF has diverted more and more material. However, the MRF still has capacity to handle additional materials. During the first couple of years of the planning period, the DWRSWMA will continue to work with generators to expand collection programs for recyclables. These efforts will include:

## Section 8

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- Increasing participation in the City's curbside program and at the DWRSWMA's convenience centers;
- Exploring collection of recyclables at the curb in other cities and in the unincorporated county;
- Partnering with additional schools, businesses, and colleges to site recycling containers;
- Siting containers at public venues to collect recyclables; and
- Providing collection locations for post-consumer carpet delivered by carpet installers.

Although the DWRSWMA will continue to invest significant resources to collect, process, and market the materials collected, it is depending, in part, on state grants and other sources to provide the capital to purchase the necessary equipment to expand these programs.

### 8.3.2 Collector Permits

At the time this Plan was being drafted, the County and City of Dalton were updating their ordinances and the DWRSWMA updating its policies and procedures to clarify how solid waste is managed and the role of the DWRSWMA. The new ordinances include very specific requirements for collectors. Early in the planning period, the DWRSWMA will evaluate the best way to ensure that these requirements are enforced, including the role of its own enforcement staff and that of the City and County. One particular enforcement issue that will be considered is the need for an environmental court. An environmental court would not only hear cases related to violations of the collector permit requirements, but could also hear cases related to littering, illegal dumping, graffiti, and other environmental code violations. In communities that have such courts, a judge in an existing court, typically a municipal, magistrate, or probate court, allocates a given time each week or each month to hear such cases. This allows a particular judge to become familiar with these ordinances and allows a time when such violations do not compete with other crimes that may require more attention. Another important enforcement issue is to ensure that all solid waste haulers operating in the incorporated and unincorporated areas of the County have received a permit to do so and are adhering to the permit requirements established. One of these policies for which enforcement will be critical is that all solid waste collected in the County is delivered to facilities designated by the DWRSWMA.

### 8.3.3 Landfill Gas Recovery

In late 2007, the DWRSWMA began construction of a landfill gas recovery system. This system is expected to begin operation in early 2008. The landfill gas, which will be treated and compressed, thereby making it suitable to be used as boiler fuel, will be sold to an industrial facility (Dow Chemical) located approximately two miles from

the Landfill. The landfill gas operation is expected to generate an average estimated \$273,000 in net revenue each year for the Authority.

### **8.3.4 Implementation Activities**

Table 8-2 includes a summary of the activities and programs that the DWRSWMA and the local governments will be taking to implement this Plan. The activities are listed by planning element (i.e. waste reduction, collection, disposal, land limitation and education and public involvement). The Table indicates the year that the activity will be implemented, the responsible party, the projected annual cost, and the potential source of funds to implement the activity.

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**Table 8-2  
Implementation Strategy FY 2008- 2018**

Activity	Waste Reduction										Responsible Party	Est. Annual Cost (\$)	Funding Source	
	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017				2018
Continue to collect recyclables at the curb	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	(1)	City general fund
Explore collection of recyclables at the curb in other cities and the unincorporated county.		X			X			X					N/A	N/A
Continue to offer collection of recyclables at convenience centers for all County residents.	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	762,000 <sup>(2)</sup>	Enterprise Fund, County general fund <sup>(3)</sup>
Continue to offer drop-off collection of recyclables at four schools (one in City of Dalton and three in unincorporated County).	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	Included in other costs	Enterprise Fund
Continue to offer drop-off collection of recyclables in the Downtown Development District.	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	Included in other costs	Enterprise Fund
Encourage participation in existing recycling programs through continued education and promotion.	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	Included in KDWB Budget	Enterprise Fund
Evaluate partnering with additional schools and colleges to site recycling containers and implement as opportunities become available.	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	N/A	N/A

**IMPLEMENTATION STRATEGY**

Activity	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	Responsible Party	Est. Annual Cost (\$)	Funding Source
Evaluate expansion of commercial recycling programs in downtown Dalton, at major retailers, malls, and hotels, and other businesses as appropriate. Implement as opportunities become available.	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	DWRSWMA	N/A	N/A
Evaluate the opportunity to collect residential recyclables at locations other than curbside and convenience centers (e.g., multi-family residences, supermarkets) and implement, as appropriate.	X	X										DWRSWMA	N/A	N/A
Use containers provided through the State's Away from Home Recycling grant program, offer collection of recyclables at public venues.	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	DWRSWMA, City and County Rec. and other Depts.	Included in other costs	DCA provides containers, Enterprise Funds
Provide technical assistance and promotional material to schools, other institutions, businesses, and industry to assist them to initiate and expand source reduction, reuse, and recycling programs.	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	DWRSWMA	Included in KDWB Budget	Enterprise funds
Continue to process residential, commercial, and industrial recyclables at the DWRSWMA MRF.	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	DWRSWMA	430,000	Enterprise funds
Continue to expand the materials sent to market from the MRF as markets are identified.	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	DWRSWMA	N/A	N/A
Continue to offer financial incentives for business and industry that deliver loads to the Landfill that can be diverted to the balefill or MRF.	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	DWRSWMA	N/A	N/A
Continue developing infrastructure to divert post-consumer carpet.	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	DWRSWMA	Included in MRF budget	Enterprise funds, state grants
Mulch yard trimmings delivered to convenience centers and disposal locations.	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	DWRSWMA	63,000	Enterprise Funds

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Activity	Collection											Responsible Party	Est. Annual Cost (\$)	Funding Source	
	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018				
Update and enforce permit requirements for all Collectors of solid waste in the County.	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	DWRSWMA, County and Cities	To be determined	Fines and penalties
Pursue the development of an Environmental Court that can focus on prosecuting violations of related ordinances.		X											DWRSWMA, County and Cities	To be determined	Fines and penalties
Continue current residential collection programs at the source.	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	City of Dalton, City of Cohutta, City of Varnell	(1)	Each City's general fund
Continue operating convenience centers for solid waste and recyclables.	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	DWRSWMA	762,000 <sup>(2)</sup>	Enterprise Fund, County general fund <sup>(3)</sup>
Evaluate the number, location, hours, traffic, and costs at each of the convenience centers (especially as the lease on the MLK facility expires) to determine if they meet local needs. Adjust as needed.	X												DWRSWMA	N/A	N/A
Continue commercial and industrial collection through permitted collectors that contract directly with businesses.	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	DWRSWMA	Contract-dependent	Generator's budget
Evaluate the need for franchises or contracts for collection in the unincorporated County to ensure the proper management of solid waste generated in the County. Implement as needed.		X							X				DWRSWMA	N/A	N/A
Continue to operate permanent HHW collection facility.	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	DWRSWMA	23,000	Enterprise Funds

## IMPLEMENTATION STRATEGY

Activity	Disposal										Responsible Party	Est. Annual Cost (\$)	Funding Source
	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017			
Enforce requirement that all solid waste collected in the County is delivered to a solid waste handling facility designated by the DWRSWMA.	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	N/A	N/A
Review all proposals for solid waste handling facilities to be located in the County and recommend approval or rejection to the appropriate elected bodies.	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	N/A	N/A
Continue to operate the waste acceptance program to ensure that only wastes that can be properly handled at a Subtitle D landfill are disposed at the DWRSWMA Landfill.	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	Included in Landfill Budget	Enterprise Funds
Continue to close cells consistent with regulatory requirements as they are filled.	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	190,000 <sup>4</sup>	Enterprise Fund deposits into escrow account for closure
Continue to expand permitted landfill capacity as required to maintain adequate disposal capacity to meet all Whitfield County's disposal needs.	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	38,000 <sup>5</sup>	Enterprise Fund deposits into escrow account for development
Continue to pursue approval for alternative closure cap design.		X										N/A	N/A
Continue to purchase additional land as needed for borrow material, buffer areas, wetlands mitigation and green space conservation.	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X		Escrow account for development <sup>6</sup>
Construct and operate the landfill gas recovery system.	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	530,000 <sup>7</sup>	Enterprise Funds, including revenue from landfill gas

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Activity	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	Responsible Party	Est. Annual Cost (\$)	Funding Source
Evaluate alternative management approaches for C&D debris.	X		X		X		X		X		X	DWRSWMA	50,000 for one-time study	Enterprise funds
Consider variable (Pay as You Throw) rates for residents		X					X					DWRSWMA, County, and Cities	N/A	N/A
Continue to support DWRSWMA costs with Enterprise Funds generated through user fees and other sources of revenues generated by DWRSWMA operations.	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	DWRSWMA	N/A	N/A
Continue to diversify the sources of revenue that help to fund the Authority's solid waste management programs.	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	DWRSWMA	N/A	N/A
Update financial analysis to determine impacts of changes in waste stream, user fees, operating practices, amounts and sources of revenues etc.	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	DWRSWMA	15,000	Enterprise Fund
<b>Land Limitation</b>														
Keep all information about natural environmental limitations, zoning, and land use information updated and available.	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	DWRSWMA, GA EPD, County, and Cities	N/A	N/A
Inform and educate potential facility developers about siting and operational requirements and the procedures to demonstrate consistency with this Plan.	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	DWRSWMA, County, and Cities	N/A	N/A
Consult land limitation maps and zoning ordinances and maps when facility is proposed to ensure proper siting of solid waste management facilities.	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	DWRSWMA, County, and Cities	N/A	N/A
Review all proposed solid waste handling facilities or facility expansions for consistency with this Plan.	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	DWRSWMA	N/A	N/A

**IMPLEMENTATION STRATEGY**

Activity	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	Responsible Party	Est. Annual Cost (\$)	Funding Source
Enforce the requirement that no solid waste handling facility be sited in the County unless it is included in this Plan using the procedures described herein.	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	DWRSWMA, County and Cities	N/A	N/A
<b>Education and Public Involvement</b>														
Continue funding activities of KDWB.	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	DWRSWMA	15,000	Enterprise Funds
Update the website (dws.wa.org) and printed materials regularly.	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	KDWB	Included in KDWB Budget	Enterprise Funds
Continue to promote source reduction, reuse, recycling, and composting in schools, on the website, at community events, and in other forums to increase participation in programs.	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	DWRSWMA, KDWB, County and cities, ,	Included in KDWB Budget	Enterprise Funds, County and City budgets
Continue to work with schools to promote waste reduction and recycling and to teach children about solid waste management issues.	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	KDWB	Included in KDWB Budget	Enterprise Funds
Continue to offer tours at DWRSWMA facilities	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	KDWB, DWRSWMA	N/A	N/A
Expand promotional material to inform public about innovative programs of the DWRSWMA such as the wetlands mitigation bank and the landfill gas recovery program.	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	KDWB, DWRSWMA	Included in KDWB Budget	Enterprise Funds
Develop new public education and informational materials as new audiences are identified and new programs are initiated.	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	KDWB, DWRSWMA	Included in KDWB Budget	Enterprise Funds
Maintain involvement of advisory groups in developing solid waste management policy and programs.	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	DWRSWMA	N/A	N/A

## Section 8

Activity	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	Responsible Party	Est. Annual Cost (\$)	Funding Source
Include information about federal, state, and local solid waste management policies in public education and informational materials.	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	KDWB, DWRSWMA	Included in KDWB Budget	Enterprise Funds
Pursue the development of an Environmental Court that can focus on prosecuting violations of related ordinances.		X										DWRSWMA, County and Cities	To be determined	Fines and penalties

DWRSWMA = Dalton-Whitfield Regional Solid Waste Management Authority  
 KDWB = Keep Dalton-Whitfield Beautiful, Inc.

- (1) Total of \$935,000 for City of Dalton for collection of both MSW and recyclables.
- (2) This amount covers collection of recyclables as well as collection and disposal of MSW.
- (3) The Enterprise Fund covers the cost of operating the convenience centers. The County pays for the cost of disposal of the MSW collected at the convenience centers.
- (4) The financial analysis conducted for the DWRSWMA each year indicates that an average of \$190,000 (in 2007 \$) should be deposited in the escrow account from the Enterprise Fund for closure each year to ensure that sufficient funds are available to cover costs as they are incurred.
- (5) The financial analysis conducted for the DWRSWMA each year indicates that an average of \$38,000 (in 2007 \$) should be deposited in the escrow account from the Enterprise Fund for cell development each year to ensure that sufficient funds are available to cover costs as they are incurred.
- (6) Accounts for one planned land purchase in 2008. Additional acquisitions may occur over the planning period, but costs are unknown at this time.
- (7) Averaged over 15 years according to the Authority's Pro-forma.

## 8.4 Source of Funds

In 2006, approximately 79 percent of the DWRSWMA's costs were operating expenses and 21 percent were deposits to funds for future landfill development, closure and post-closure care and other special projects. In order to cover the costs for this system, the DWRSWMA currently charges a per ton user fee for all waste delivered to disposal facilities. This allows the DWRSWMA to fund the current system with an enterprise fund, rather than placing the burden on the tax base. Revenues are also generated from the sales of recyclables, brush/mulch loading fees and the sale of wetlands credits. Starting in 2008, revenue will also be generated by the sale of the landfill's methane gas.

The DWRSWMA will continue to fund all its programs through these sources of revenues generated by operations.

## 8.5 Plan Updates and Amendments

The implementation strategy will be reviewed on an annual basis as the County and Cities prepare their Annual Solid Waste Management Survey and Full Cost Report to submit to the Georgia Department of Community Affairs. The County and Cities will take this opportunity to determine if the goals or needs of the County and Cities have changed in a way that would require changes to the implementation strategy.

In addition, the County and Cities will update the Short Term Work Program, as required, by October 31, 2013, and will update and adopt this Plan by October 31, 2018.



**Appendix A**  
**WHITFIELD COUNTY LITTER CONTROL ORDINANCE**

---



(Ord. of 9-13-94, § 8)

**Sec. 7-97. Enforcement.**

Violators of this ordinance shall be subject to the provisions of section 7-91 of the county Code of Ordinances, and the enforcement of this ordinance is in accordance with the Georgia Solid Waste Management Act, O.C.G.A. § 12-8-20 et seq.; the Executive Reorganization Act of 1972, O.C.G.A. § 12-2-1 et seq.; and the Georgia Administrative Procedures Act, O.C.G.A. § 50-13-1 et seq.

(Ord. of 9-13-94, § 9)

**Sec. 7-98. Regulation of litter.**

It shall be unlawful for any person or persons to dump, deposit, throw, or leave or cause or permit these activities on any public or private property in the county, unless:

- (1) Such property is designated by the county for disposal of litter;
- (2) Such litter is placed into a litter receptacle or container installed on such property;
- (3) Such person is the owner or tenant in lawful possession of such property, or has first obtained consent of the owner or tenant in lawful possession or the act is done under the personal direction of said owner or tenant, all in a manner consistent with the public welfare and not in violation of any other law, rule, or regulation.

(Ord. of 9-13-94, § 10)

**Sec. 7-99. Punishment.**

Any person who violates section 7-99 of this chapter shall be issued a citation by those authorized under section 7-102 herein. Jurisdiction over such matters shall be through magistrate court and, upon conviction, shall be punished as follows:

- (1) By a fine of not less than one hundred dollars (\$100.00) and not more than one thousand dollars (\$1,000.00).
- (2) In the sound discretion of the court, the violator may be directed to pick up and remove litter from any public street, highway, or right-of-way for a distance not to exceed one (1) mile.
- (3) In addition to the fines set out herein, the court may direct the violator to reimburse the county for the reasonable cost of removing the litter or repairing the property damaged by such littering.
- (4) In circumstances deemed appropriate by the court, violators may be subject to the Georgia Criminal Code (O.C.G.A. § 16-7-42 et seq.).

(Ord. of 9-13-94, § 11)

**Sec. 7-100. Prima facie evidence.**

- (a) Whenever litter is thrown, deposited, dropped or dumped from any motor vehicle, boat, airplane, or other conveyance in violation of this chapter, it shall be prima facie evidence that the operator of said conveyance has violated this chapter.
- (b) Whenever litter is dumped, deposited, thrown or left on public or private property in violation of this chapter is discovered to contain any article or articles, including but not limited to letters, bills, publications, or other writings which display the name of a person hereon in such a manner as to indicate that the article belongs or belonged to such person, it

shall be a rebuttable presumption that such person has violated this part.

(Ord. of 9-13-94, § 12)

**Sec. 7-101. Storage of waste tires.**

In accordance with Chapter 391-3-4-.19(4) of the Rules of the Georgia Department of Natural Resources Environmental Protection Division, no person may store more than one hundred (100) scrap tires anywhere in Whitfield County, unless otherwise exempted by Chapter 391-3-4-.19(6)(b).

(Ord. of 9-13-94, § 13)

**Sec. 7-102. Enforcement.**

The enforcement of this ordinance shall be within the jurisdiction of the county's enforcement personnel, including the manager of the solid waste department or his or her designees or employees and all county and state enforcement personnel who shall have such powers as are reasonable necessary to enforce and give effect to this ordinance.

(Ord. of 9-13-94, § 14)

**Secs. 7-103– 7-109. Reserved.**

**DIVISION 2.  
REGULATION OF DISPOSAL OF HAZARDOUS WASTE\***

-----  
**Editor's note:** An ordinance adopted July 12, 1991, specifically stated that the provisions complemented rather than superseded the provisions of ch. 7, art. III. The editor has, therefore, included the provisions as div. 2, §§ 7-110– 7-114, with the existing provisions of the article, §§ 7-80– 7-92, being designated div. 1.  
-----

**Sec. 7-110. Permit required.**

There shall be no disposal of any hazardous waste as in the county without first receiving a permit from the Dalton/Whitfield Solid Waste Management Department. The terms and conditions of this permit shall be determined as provided in this article.

(Ord. of 7-12-91)

**Sec. 7-111. Definition.**

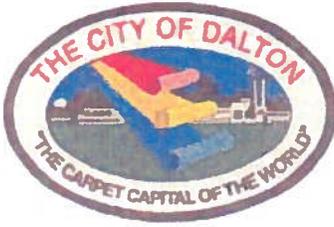
For the purposes of this division, hazardous waste is defined as all waste defined as hazardous waste by the rules and regulations of the Environmental Protection Division of the Department of Natural Resources for the State of Georgia, and is also all waste defined as "hazardous constituent" in the Solid Waste Management Act, O.C.G.A. § 12-8-20 et seq., reference to which is herein made, and also means any substance which has been defined as hazardous waste in regulations promulgated by the Administrator of the United States Environmental Protection Agency pursuant to the federal act which is in force and effect on February 1, 1988, codified in 40 CFR § 261.3, reference to which is herein made.

(Ord. of 7-12-91)

**Appendix B**  
**LANDFILL CAPACITY ASSURANCE LETTER**  
**FROM THE OLD DIXIE LANDFILL**

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July 28, 2008

Mr. Brian Anderson, Chairman  
Whitfield County Board of Commissioners  
301 W Crawford St Dalton, GA 30720

Dear Mr. Anderson,

In conjunction with updating the Solid Waste Management Plan for Whitfield County and the cities of Cohutta, Dalton, Tunnel Hill and Varnell, the Dalton-Whitfield Regional Solid Waste Management Authority (DWRSWMA) is providing you with this letter documenting the disposal capacity of the Old Dixie Hwy. Phase 6, Municipal Solid Waste landfill. This letter serves as a disposal capacity assurance for waste generated by all residents and businesses of Whitfield County, to include the unincorporated County and the Cities of Dalton, Varnell, Cohutta and Tunnel Hill, from now through 2018. The Georgia EPD permit number for this facility is 155-047D(SL). This assurance is based upon the residents and businesses of Whitfield County disposing of approximately 192,162 tons of waste at this facility on an annual basis, or 1,921,620 tons over the planning period. Based on the most recent annual capacity report submitted to the Georgia Environmental Protection Division, prepared in September 2007, the facility has remaining permitted capacity for approximately 5,192,274 tons of waste, well over the amount anticipated during the ten year planning period.

The Dalton-Whitfield Regional Solid Waste Management Authority looks forward to continuing to provide environmentally sound waste disposal options for the foreseeable future.

Sincerely,

Norman Barashick  
Executive Director

Cc: David Pennington, Mayor, City of Dalton  
Kenny Gowin, Mayor, City of Tunnel Hill  
David Owens, Mayor, City of Varnell  
Don Henderson, Mayor, City of Cohutta

DALTON-WHITFIELD REGIONAL SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT AUTHORITY  
P.O. BOX 1205 Dalton, GA 30722-1205 706-277-2545 Fax 706-277-2546



**Appendix C**  
**SAMPLE OF EDUCATIONAL MATERIALS**

---



**Cardboard and Mixed Paper Recycling Brochure**





**DALTON-WHITFIELD REGIONAL SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT AUTHORITY**  
 P.O. Box 1205 – Dalton, GA 30722 – 706-277-2545

**R-E-C-Y-C-L-E!**

Make the effort to make a difference the cleaner the better Recycling -

**Don't "Waste" Your Chance to RECYCLE! ITEMS ACCEPTED:**



**Cardboard**

Please **FLATTEN** boxes  
**NO** food-soiled cardboard accepted  
**NO** trash in boxes. Please empty all packing materials, Styrofoam, packing peanuts, etc. & place in trash.  
**NO** waxed cardboard



**MIXED PAPER**

We will accept:  
 Computer paper, junk mail, envelopes, file folders, magazines, newspaper, office paper, phone books, paperboard, shoe boxes, shirt boxes.

If you have a question about a specific item you generate, please call us 706-277-2545.

Visit us at [www.dwsa.org](http://www.dwsa.org) to find out about Household Hazardous Waste and many other opportunities available!  
**Recycling provided FREE by the DWRSWMA!**

**If In Doubt, Throw It Out!**



**DALTON-WHITFIELD REGIONAL SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT AUTHORITY**  
 P.O. Box 1205 – Dalton, GA 30722 – 706-277-2545

**R-E-C-Y-C-L-E with Us!**

The **Downtown Dalton Development Authority** and the **Dalton-Whitfield Regional Solid Waste Management Authority** have partnered to offer the businesses of the Downtown Dalton area **CARDBOARD** and **MIXED PAPER** recycling!

**STOP** putting your recyclables in the trash! Don't "waste" Your chance to recycle! Did you know that the majority of the recycling industry is located in Georgia? There are more paper mills and recycling plants in Georgia than any other place in the United States. Our mills have to travel as far as California to get material because Georgians are throwing away materials instead of recycling them.

**SORT** through your recyclable materials to make sure they are in fact recyclable. Please refer to the list on the back to check if your material is an accepted recyclable item. Make sure all materials are as clean as possible. **If in doubt, throw it out!**

**DROP** your materials off at the recycling box located under the Waugh Street Bridge located on Depot Street! The container is clearly marked for your materials! On the container there are 3 6 inch by 5 foot slots located on each side of the container to place your materials in. Please have your boxes flattened.

**DID YOU KNOW ...**



For every ton (2,000 lbs) of paper you recycle you are saving **17** trees and enough energy to heat the average size home for **6 months** (4,100 kilowatt hours)!



Approximately **70%** of office trash is recyclable paper!



## Is It Legal In Georgia, **NO!**

*According to Chapter 391-3-4 Solid Waste Management Act*

Current state and local ordinances ban burn barrels in cities and towns. Many counties throughout the state have taken the approach of developing an educational program to inform its citizens of the hazards of open burning of garbage either in piles or in burn barrels.

Burning of plastics, food wastes, demolition materials and hazardous waste are specifically prohibited in some places. Furthermore, some local laws say that release of smoke that is a nuisance or annoyance to a number of persons, or that is a threat to the health and safety of any individual is grounds for legal action.

Because of the difficulties monitoring how burn barrels are being used, the state is considering stricter enforcement and increased fines. As our friend Smokey the Bear would say ....



**Burning  
Is Bad!**

## [Need More Information?](#)

To learn more about burn barrels in Dalton/Whitfield County, and their impact on health and environmental quality, and to find out more about how you can reduce, reuse, recycle, contact:

**Dalton/Whitfield Regional Solid Waste Management Authority**  
706-673-5911 or 706-277-2545

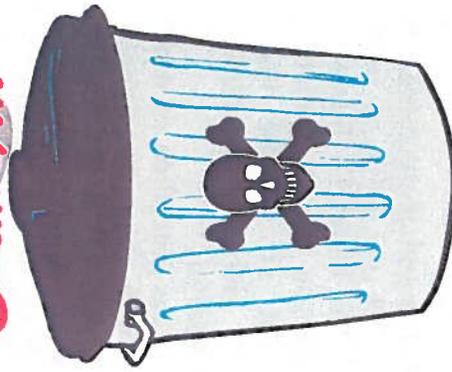
**Georgia Forestry Commission**  
706-272-2943

**Keep Dalton/Whitfield Beautiful**  
706-226-6211

*Let's protect ourselves as well  
as our environment!*



## Dalton/Whitfield Regional Solid Waste Management Authority



## A GROWING POLLUTION

## Backyard Burning:

lower burning temperatures result in more harmful fumes in the air and hazardous materials in the ash.

### What's in all that smoke?

There are several inexpensive and easy ways to kick the habit of using your backyard burn barrel. By following these simple tips you can substantially reduce the amount of material that might otherwise end up polluting our neighborhood air.

**REDUCE** the generation of waste. Buy products with less packaging. It's surprising how fast your waste pile shrinks when you start paying attention to the packaging you bring home.

**REUSE** as much material as possible, such as food containers and envelopes. Compost your kitchen organic wastes. Try to salvage construction material and used lumber.

**RECYCLE** what you can't use, including office or mixed paper, cardboard, paper-board, magazines, newspapers, metal & aluminum cans, and all glass containers. Many plastics and scrap tires may also be recycled. Finally, as an alternative to backyard burning, arrange for trash that can't be composted or recycled, to be picked up or self delivered to one of four DWRSWMA's facilities. Call

706-777-2545 for a location near you.

### Is it the neighborly thing to do?

Over the past few years, the number of burn barrels in Dalton/Whitfield County, and throughout Georgia, has increased as some residents have sought to avoid higher garbage fees by burning their trash. This may seem like a good idea, but a great deal more than saving money is involved in that choice.

Air pollution from burn barrels has increased. Drifting clouds of smoke from burn barrels are not only offensive to those downwind; they contain health-threatening compounds.

### What's so bad about a little smoke?

It is difficult to determine exactly what compounds are released from an individual burn barrel. What comes out depends on what type of trash goes in and the temperature of the fire. Burn barrels usually have fires that burn at low temperatures compared to large incinerator plants. The National Center for Air Pollution Control has stated that

Burning household trash releases many toxic chemicals into the air. The effects of these toxic fumes include:



- \*Benzene (induces leukemia)
- \*Toluene diisocyanate (causes asthma)
- \*Nitrogen oxides (damages lungs)
- \*Nitrile compounds (metabolic poisons & carcinogens)

Other toxic compounds released from burning trash may include:



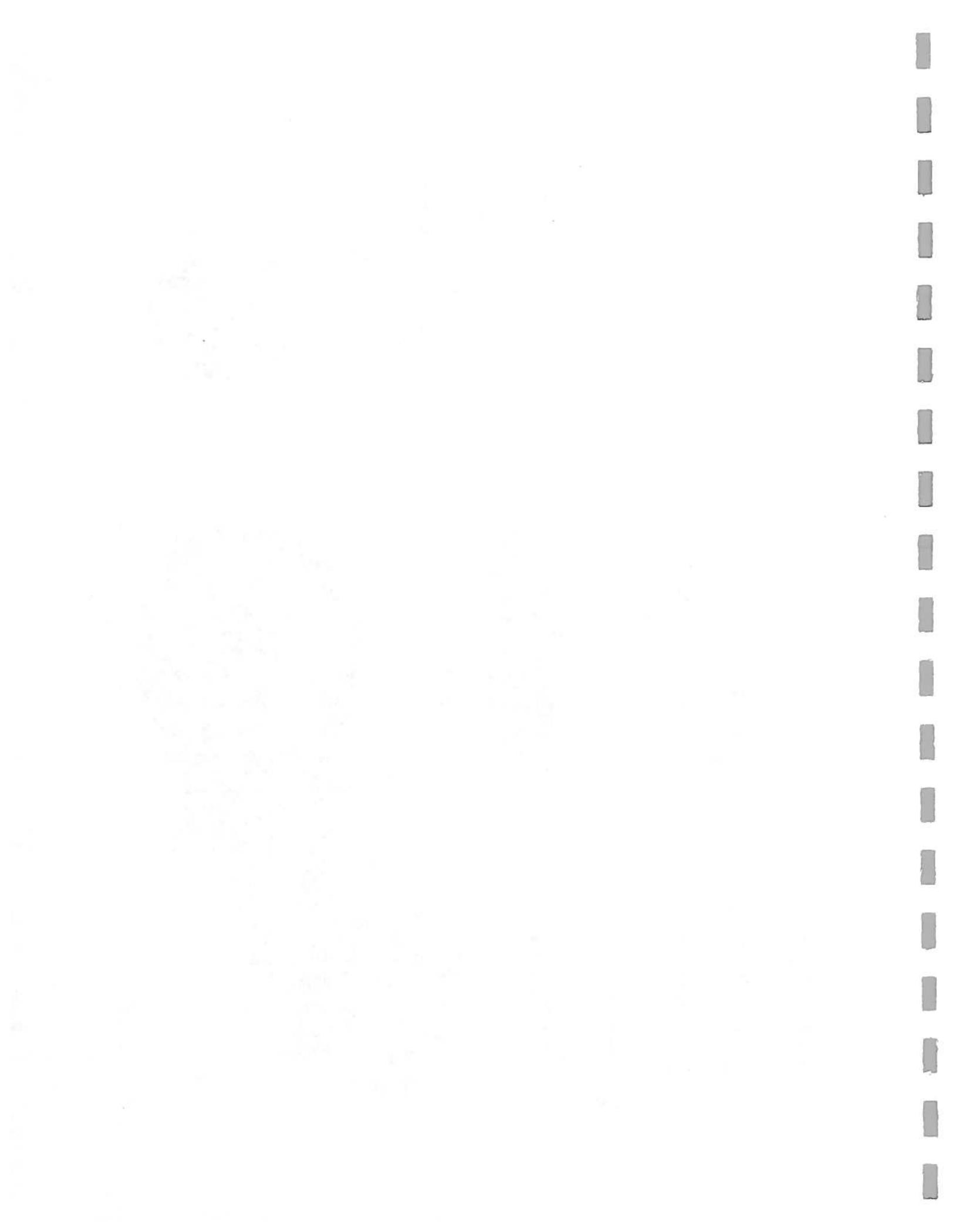
- \*Dioxins and formaldehyde
- \*Hydrochloric acid & sulfuric acid
- \*Carbon Monoxide
- \*Polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons
- \*Cadmium, lead, and chromium

Besides the cancer-causing aspects of these chemicals, some may also cause:



- \*Eye, nose, & throat irritation
- \*Lung irritation and congestion
- \*Skin irritations or burns
- \*Stomach or intestinal upset
- \*Eye damage
- \*Headaches or memory loss





**Household Hazardous Waste**

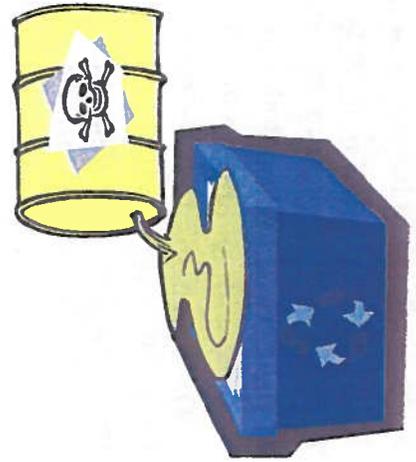


Here are a few important things to remember before coming to the facility:

- 👉 The facility is open the third Saturday of every month.
- 👉 The facility is operated from 7:00 a.m. until 2:00 p.m.
- 👉 The facility is for Whitfield County residents only.
- 👉 A MAXIMUM of 220 lbs. is accepted from each resident.
- 👉 The waste must be in the original container and have the original label on it.
- 👉 The container must not leak.
- 👉 The contents must match the container label.

**We Can Accept:**

- Pesticides
- Latex Paint
- Oil-Based Paint
- Varnish
- Aerosol Cans
- Cleaning Solvents
- Oven Cleaner
- Paint Thinner
- Batteries
- Weed Killer
- Insecticides
- Pool Chemicals



**We Cannot Accept:**

- Explosives
- Ammunition
- Business Generated Waste
- Compressed Gases
- Radioactive Materials
- Dioxin Pre-Cursors
- Silvex
- Penta Chlorophenol
- 2,4,5 Tri Chlorophenol



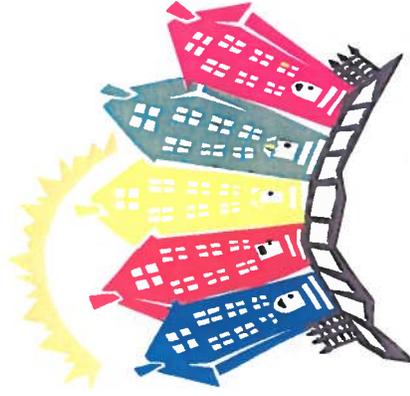
THE DALTON/WHITFIELD REGIONAL SOLID WASTE MGT. AUTHORITY OPENED THIS FACILITY IN JUNE 1999. AS OF JUNE 2000,

WHITFIELD COUNTY RESIDENTS HAD DIVERTED **13.27** TONS OF HOUSEHOLD HAZARDOUS WASTE FROM GOING TO THE LANDFILL.

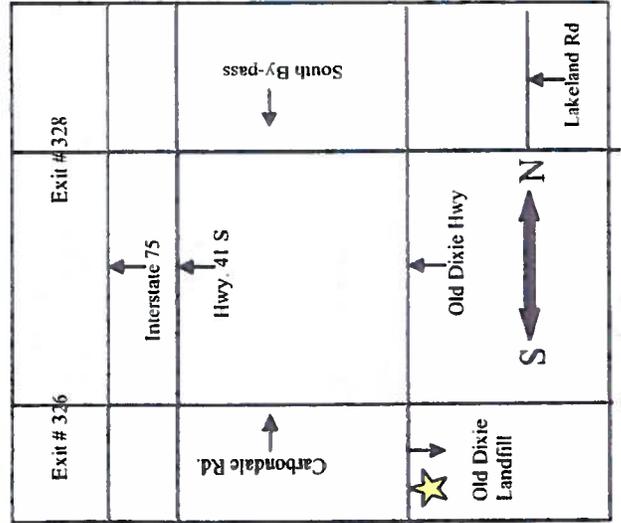
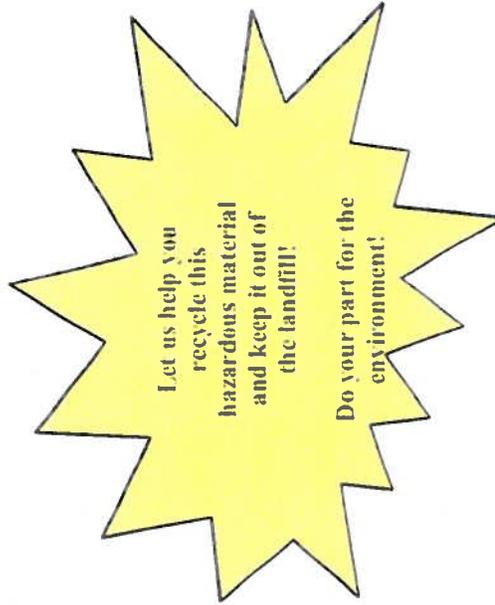
THIS FACILITY IS THE FIRST PERMANENT FACILITY PUBLICLY OWNED IN THE STATE OF GEORGIA.

IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTION REGARDING A WASTE MATERIAL YOU MAY HAVE, OR ANY QUESTIONS ABOUT THE FACILITY, PLEASE CONTACT BRIDGET SANFORD OR DONNIE POTTER AT (706)277-2545.

Dalton/Whitfield Regional Solid Waste Management Authority is committed to providing the citizens of the City of Dalton and Whitfield County with an opportunity to recycle as many materials as possible. Call (706)277-2545 for a complete list of all materials accepted at the Old Dixie Landfill and the transfer stations located throughout the county.



**DALTON/WHITFIELD  
REGIONAL SOLID  
WASTE MANAGEMENT  
AUTHORITY**



**Info Booklet – 2007**



## CONTACT INFORMATION:

### **Old Dixie Landfill**

4189 Old Dixie Highway  
Dalton, GA 30721

706-277-3389 (Scalehouse)

### **McGaughey Chapel Transfer Station**

819 McGaughey Chapel Road  
Dalton, GA 30721

706-694-8744

### **Compliance Office**

2598 Landfill Road  
Rocky Face, GA 30740

706-673-5911

### **MLK Jr. Transfer Station**

1924 MLK Blvd.  
Dalton, GA 30721

706-226-6325

### **Weside Transfer Station**

2598 Landfill Road  
Rocky Face, GA 30740

706-673-5895

### **Administrative Offices**

4350 Gazaway Road  
Dalton, GA 30721

706-277-2545

Visit us on the web at <http://www.dwsa.org>



**This is a successful public service with  
the cooperation of all citizens of Whitfield  
County.**

**Created in 1994 by Whitfield  
County and the City of Dalton to  
manage solid waste and promote  
recycling and education.**



### **Authority Members**

**Brian Anderson, Ray Elrod,  
Mike Cowan, Bobby Grant  
Denise Wood**

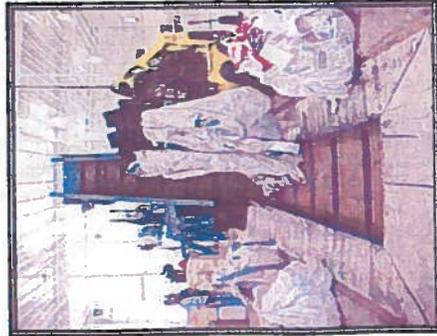
Printed on Recycled Paper



**Important Facts about the Dalton-Whitfield Regional Solid Waste Management Authority:**

The City of Dalton and Whitfield County through its formation of the DWRWSWMA provides the citizen's and cities of Whitfield County the following safe integrated solid waste management services that are both economically and environmentally sound:

29 acre permitted carpet balefill with over 1,700,000 cubic yards airspace and 15 years of disposal capacity. Over 300,000 tons of material stockpiled for potential recovery.



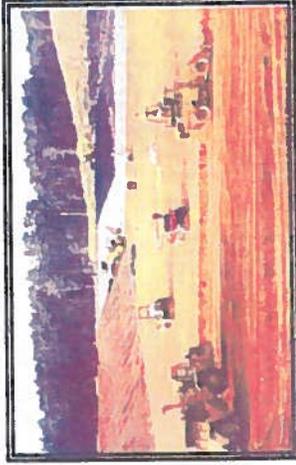
Materials Recovery Facility (MRF) with over 40,000SF of building and plant floor space to provide the industrial and commercial waste stream with recycling and baling opportunities along with some residential source separated recycling and a training center to provide education on recycling and waste reduction to our community. For 2002 - 2006 the MRF received 67,325 tons of material and sent 15,535 tons to market for recycling.



The first and only permanent, publicly owned Household Hazardous Waste facility in the State of Georgia. Open on the third Saturday of every month to the residents of Whitfield County.



Yard Waste Recycling program has provided free mulch to the residents of Whitfield County through the wood grinding operations of trees, limbs, stumps, and other yard wastes.



90 acre permitted Sub-Title D municipal solid waste landfill with over 11,000,000 cubic yards of airspace, in excess of over 30 years of remaining capacity  
Over 1,000 acres of contiguous property



Four-convenience drop-off and recycling centers providing residential bagged and bulky waste transfer and recycling.

- DWRWSWMA escrows all funds to maintain an approved financial assurance mechanism for closure and post-closure costs as required by the US EPA and the GA DNR / EPD
- Georgia Environmental Facilities Authority grants in excess of \$360,000 since 1994
- DWRWSWMA contributed \$825,000 to the Westside Water Line Project
- DWRWSWMA has recycled \$3,697 tons of material for the period of 2002-2006



Wetlands Mitigation Bank protecting over 4 miles of river corridor on the Conasauga River

**The Future of Solid Waste in Whitfield County:**

- 30 years of disposal capacity remaining at MSW landfill and 15 years of disposal capacity of carpet monofill
- Increase our recycling programs and participation
- Promote Environmental Education in the local school systems and our community
- Plans are underway to develop a Landfill Gas Utilization Project, utilizing the landfill as a source of renewable energy for local industry while providing environmental benefits to the local community.

**Plastic-Recycling Made Easy Brochure**



**Dalton-Whitfield  
Regional Solid  
Waste Management  
Authority**

**Recycling Program**



Get ready to recycle!

The following materials may be recycled at all of our centers!

- Newspaper/Magazines
- Aluminum Cans
- #1 & #2 Plastic
- Cardboard
- Used Motor Oil
- Glass (Clear/Brown/Blue-Green)
- Scrap Metal
- Batteries

Please do your part and help keep these materials out of the landfill!

Make sure you can recycle your item and remember,

***If in doubt, throw it out!***

**Dalton-Whitfield  
Regional Solid  
Waste Management  
Authority**

**Recycling Program**



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**Dalton-Whitfield  
Regional Solid  
Waste Management  
Authority**

**Recycling Program**



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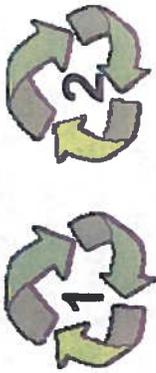
***If in doubt, throw it out!***

## Recycling Plastic Bottles Is Easy

Here's How:

### 1. CHECK YOUR BOTTLE

Make sure that you locate the #1 or #2 symbol on the bottom of the plastic container.



### 2. REMOVE CAP

Remove caps and pumps and throw them away.

### 3. RINSE AND FLATTEN

Rinse the bottle. You don't need to remove the labels. If possible, please flatten bottles so they take up less room in the bin!

### 4. RECYCLE

This is the easy part! Just toss the bottle into the recycling bin!



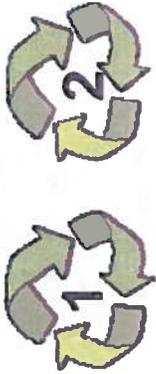
*If in doubt, throw it out!*

## Recycling Plastic Bottles Is Easy

Here's How:

### 1. CHECK YOUR BOTTLE

Make sure that you locate the #1 or #2 symbol on the bottom of the plastic container.



### 2. REMOVE CAP

Remove caps and pumps and throw them away.

### 3. RINSE AND FLATTEN

Rinse the bottle. You don't need to remove the labels. If possible, please flatten bottles so they take up less room in the bin!

### 4. RECYCLE

This is the easy part! Just toss the bottle into the recycling bin!



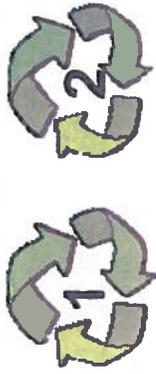
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*If in doubt, throw it out!*

**Updating the Solid Waste Management Plan  
September 17, 2007 – First Public Hearing**



PRESENTED TO: DALTON-WHITFIELD REGIONAL  
SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT AUTHORITY

## Updating the Solid Waste Management Plan

SEPTEMBER 17, 2007

First Public Hearing

RWBECK

Mind Powered: Insight with Impact.



## Why do we need a Solid Waste Management Plan?

- **State of Georgia Comprehensive Solid Waste Management Act of 1990**
  - Requires all local governments to submit a Solid Waste Management Plan every 10 years
  - Requires all local governments to submit a Short Term Work Plan for solid waste every 5 years
- Qualifies the County to receive State grants, loans, and permits for solid waste and recycling programs and facilities

R. W. Beck, Inc. | Updating SWMP

## How Does a Solid Waste Management Plan Benefit Citizens?

- Gives citizens a better understanding of:
  - How much waste is currently being disposed
  - How current collection, disposal, waste reduction, and recycling programs are working
- Defines how County waste will be collected and disposed
- Helps assure that there is landfill space available to take County waste for the next 10 years
- Identifies the amount and sources of funds needed to cover collection and disposal costs for the next 10 years

R. W. Beck, Inc. | Updating SWMP

## Overview of Planning Process

Inventory and Assessment: What do you have?



Needs and Goals: Where do you want to go?



Implementation Schedule: How will you get there?

R. W. Beck, Inc. | Updating SWMP

## Plan Contents

- Amount of Waste
- Waste Reduction Element
- Collection Element
- Disposal Element
- Land Limitation Element
- Public Education Element
- Implementation Strategy

R. W. Beck, Inc. | Updating SWMP

## Major Requirements of Planning Process

- Waste Reduction Requirements
- 10-Year Disposal Requirement
- Identify Sites Unsuitable for Solid Waste Handling Facilities and Process for Determining Consistency
- At least two Public Meetings - one as planning process begins, one when draft plan is complete
- To view Minimum Planning Standards, go to <http://www.dca.state.ga.us/environmental/>

R. W. Beck, Inc. | Updating SWMP

## Planning Schedule

Activity	Completed by
Data Request	July 2007
Data Gathering Complete	July 31, 2007
First Public Hearing	September 17, 2007
Inventory and Assessment Complete	September 2007
Needs and Goals Complete	October 2007
Implementation Strategy Complete	October 2007
Draft Plan	November 2007
Second Public Hearing	December 2007
Final Plan	December 2007
County and Cities Pass Resolution to Submit	January 2008
Submit to North GA RDC	February 2008
Respond to Comments from RDC/DCA	After receipt of comments
County and Cities Pass Resolution to Adopt Plan	After approval

R. W. Beck, Inc. | Updating SWMP

## Your Input and Feedback Are Important!

- For any questions or comments regarding this project, please call Norman Barashick at (706) 277-2545, or email at [nbarashick@dswa.org](mailto:nbarashick@dswa.org)

R. W. Beck, Inc. | Updating SWMP

**Updating the Solid Waste Management Plan  
December 6, 2007 – Second Public Hearing**



PRESENTED TO: DALTON-WHITFIELD REGIONAL  
SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT AUTHORITY

## Updating the Solid Waste Management Plan

DECEMBER 6, 2007

Second Public Hearing

R·W·BECK

Mind Powered: Insight with Impact.



## Why do we need a Solid Waste Management Plan?

- State of Georgia Comprehensive Solid Waste Management Act of 1990
  - Requires all local governments to submit a Solid Waste Management Plan every 10 years
  - Requires all local governments to submit a Short Term Work Plan for solid waste every 5 years
- Qualifies the County to receive State grants, loans, and permits for solid waste and recycling programs and facilities

## Overview of Planning Process

Inventory and Assessment: What do you have?



Needs and Goals: Where do you want to go?



Implementation Schedule: How will you get there?

R. W. Beck, Inc. | Updating SWMP

## Plan Contents

- Amount of Waste
- Waste Reduction Element
- Collection Element
- Disposal Element
- Land Limitation Element
- Public Education Element
- Implementation Strategy

R. W. Beck, Inc. | Updating SWMP

## Waste Reduction Element

**GOAL:** To hold the disposal rate of solid waste steady throughout the planning period by offsetting any disposal increases with an equal increase in diversion activities.

**Needs:**

- Increase diversion from residents
  - Encourage participation in existing programs
  - Evaluate expansion of curbside collection
  - Expand materials where markets exist
  - Offer opportunities to recycle away from home
- Assist business and industry in their reduction efforts
  - Provide technical assistance and promotion
  - Continue to offer incentives and processing to divert post-industrial carpet
  - Develop infrastructure to divert post-consumer carpet
  - Collect from selected businesses and schools

R. W. Beck, Inc. | Updating SWMP

## Collection Element

**GOAL - Service:** To provide consistent and universal access to collection services for solid waste to all citizens of Whitfield County.

**GOAL - Oversight:** Ensure adequate oversight of collection throughout the County.

**Needs - Service:**

- Ensure convenience centers can handle anticipated tonnages/traffic in a cost-effective manner.
- Periodically evaluate the need for consistent collection system (contracts, franchises, etc.).

**Needs - Oversight:**

- Revise local ordinances to ensure that local solid waste management goals and needs can be met.
- Develop an Environmental Court that can focus on prosecuting violations of Ordinances to the fullest extent of the law.

R. W. Beck, Inc. | Updating SWMP

## Disposal Element

**GOAL - Planning:** Ensure that existing and proposed solid waste handling facilities located in the City and County are consistent with this and previous solid waste planning documents and do not negatively impact the natural environment or public health.

**GOAL - Capacity:** Maximize the disposal capacity available over the next ten years.

**GOAL - Revenue:** Ensure that the Authority's solid waste programs can be adequately supported.

R. W. Beck, Inc. | Updating SWMP

## Disposal Element

### **Needs - Planning:**

- Take action to ensure that the intent that solid waste generated in Whitfield County is managed in Whitfield County.
- Monitor all solid waste handling facilities located in the County to ensure they are operated in a manner that protects public health and the environment and are consistent with the Solid Waste Management Plan.

### **Needs - Capacity:**

- Continue to divert as much solid waste as feasible to the MRF and balefill.
- Evaluate alternative management approaches for C&D debris.

### **Needs - Revenue:**

- Continue charging fees to support an integrated SWM system, including financial assurance for closure, post-closure, and future development.
- Diversify the sources of revenue that can fund the Authority's programs.

R. W. Beck, Inc. | Updating SWMP

## Land Limitation Element

**GOAL - Planning:** To ensure that proposed solid waste handling facilities and expansions are developed to meet the needs of the County and are in a manner consistent with this Solid Waste Management Plan.

**Needs - Planning:**

- Keep all information about natural environmental limitations, zoning, and land use updated and available.
- Inform and educate potential developers about the procedures to demonstrate consistency with this solid waste management plan.
- Enforce the requirement that no solid waste handling facility be sited in the County unless it is included in the Solid Waste Management Plan using the procedures described therein.

R. W. Beck, Inc. | Updating SWMP

## Education and Public Involvement Element

**GOAL:** Ensure that all citizens of the County and Cities have access to information about waste reduction and solid waste management.

**Needs:**

- Maintain an organization focused on public education of solid waste management issues.
- Expand avenues for education of the residential and commercial sector.

R. W. Beck, Inc. | Updating SWMP

## IMPLEMENTATION STRATEGY - Waste Reduction

- Evaluate additional collection locations at schools in City of Dalton and Whitfield County.
- Evaluate the expansion of commercial recycling programs in downtown Dalton and at major retailers, malls, and hotels.

R. W. Beck, Inc. | Updating SWAP

## IMPLEMENTATION STRATEGY - Collection

- Evaluate the number, location, hours, traffic, and costs at each of the convenience centers (especially as the lease on the MLK facility expires) to determine if they meet local needs. Adjust as needed.
- Evaluate the need for franchises or contracts for collection in the unincorporated County to ensure the proper management of solid waste generated in the County. Implement as needed.

R. W. Beck, Inc. | Updating SWAP

## IMPLEMENTATION STRATEGY - Disposal

- Continue to expand permitted landfill capacity as required to maintain adequate disposal capacity to meet all Whitfield County's disposal needs.
- Continue to diversify the sources of revenue that help to fund the Authority's solid waste management programs (e.g. recycling revenues, landfill gas revenues, wetlands mitigation bank revenue, landfill gas credits, etc.).

R. W. Beck, Inc. | Updating SWMP

## IMPLEMENTATION STRATEGY - Land Limitation

- Enforce the requirement that no solid waste handling facility be sited in the County unless it is included in this Solid Waste Management Plan using the procedures described herein.

R. W. Beck, Inc. | Updating SWMP

## IMPLEMENTATION STRATEGY - Public Education

- Evaluate the possibility of developing an Environmental Court that can focus on prosecuting violations of related ordinances and be used as a tool for educating the public.

R. W. Beck, Inc. | Updating SWMP

## Next Steps

- Public comment incorporated into SWMP
- City and County Commissions pass resolution to submit Plan to Regional Dev't Center
- RDC and State Dept. of Community Affairs review and provide comment
- County and Cities consider comments and edit plan accordingly
- Commissions pass resolution to adopt

R. W. Beck, Inc. | Updating SWMP

## Your Input and Feedback Are Important!

- For any questions or comments regarding this project, please call Norman Barashick at (706) 277-2545, or email at [nbarashick@dswa.org](mailto:nbarashick@dswa.org)





**DALTON-WHITFIELD REGIONAL SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT AUTHORITY**  
 P.O. Box 1205 – Dalton, GA 30722 – 706-277-2545



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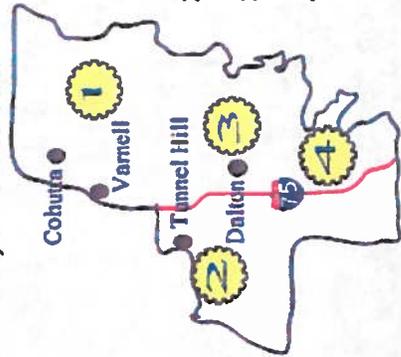
## R-E-C-Y-C-L-E with Us!

When it comes to recycling, the cleaner the better!  
 If you want to help recycle – **STOP, SORT, & DROP!**

**STOP** putting your recyclables in the trash! Don't "waste" Your chance to recycle! Make sure the material can be recycled by checking out our list of materials accepted listed on the back. **If in doubt, throw it out!**

**SORT** through your recyclable materials to make sure they are in fact recyclable. Please refer to the list on the back to check if your material is an accepted recyclable item. Make sure all materials are as clean as possible. Please make sure to rinse your containers if possible to avoid contamination and attraction of pests. **If in doubt, throw it out!**

**DROP** your materials off at one of our local convenience centers! All containers are clearly marked for your materials! If you have a question as to the drop location for your materials, please ask one of our attendants! All materials listed on back can be recycled at our 4 local convenience centers!  
**If in doubt, throw it out!**



1. McGaughey Chapel Convenience Center  
706-694-8744
2. Westside Convenience Center  
706-673-5895
3. MLK Convenience Center  
706-226-6325
4. Old Dixie Landfill  
706-277-2545

Visit us on the web at [www.dwswa.org](http://www.dwswa.org) or give us a call!

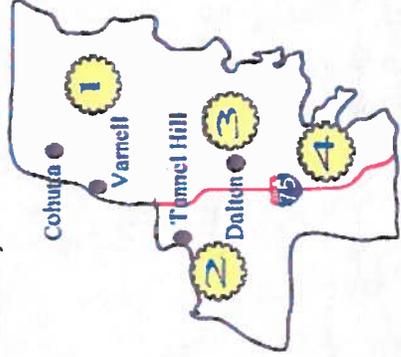
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706-277-2545

Visit us on the web at [www.dwswa.org](http://www.dwswa.org) or give us a call!

**Scrap Tire Brochure**

## SCRAP TIRE ISSUES

Georgia law promotes the reuse and recycling of scrap tires and has established a tire management fee to promote environmentally sound scrap tire management practices. At the Dalton / Whitfield County landfill, whole tires are banned from landfill disposal. The Dalton/Whitfield Regional Solid Waste Management Authority offers the citizens of the City of Dalton and Whitfield County with the opportunity to recycle their scrap tires.

**This message brought to you by Dalton/Whitfield Regional Solid Waste Management Authority. For more information, please call 706-673-5911 or 706-277-2545.**



## REPORT ILLEGAL DUMPING

The Dalton/Whitfield Regional Solid Waste Management Authority has a local Compliance Officer to handle reports of illegal dumping. Residents of Whitfield County (incorporated & unincorporated areas) may contact Mr. Jim Price about illegal dumping. Contact Mr. Price to report any type of illegal dumping, especially scrap tires. With your help, we can effectively prosecute dumping violators and work towards cleaning up our environment!

- To report illegal dumping, call 706-673-5911. **Callers may remain anonymous!**
- To find out more information regarding the Dalton/Whitfield Regional Solid Waste Management Authority and the opportunities available to Whitfield County residents, you can visit our website at <http://landfill.citydalton.net> or call us at 706-277-2545.

**Dalton/Whitfield Reg. Solid Waste Mgt. Authority**

*Today's waste, tomorrow's resource!*  
Post Office Box 1205  
Dalton, GA 30722-1205  
E-Mail: [bsanford@citydalton.net](mailto:bsanford@citydalton.net)

# DALTON/WHITFIELD REGIONAL SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT AUTHORITY

SCRAP TIRES & ILLEGAL DUMPING



**Appendix D**  
**PRESENTATIONS FROM PUBLIC HEARINGS**

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**A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE ADOPTION OF  
THE 2008-2018 SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT PLAN UPDATE**

DCI 24 '08 PM 3:22

**WHEREAS**, Whitfield County and the Cities of Cohutta, Dalton, Tunnel Hill and Varnell, Georgia are required by the 1990 Georgia Solid Waste Management Act to develop a Solid Waste Management Plan which meets the minimum standards for solid waste planning established pursuant to the Act; and

**WHEREAS**, the Department of Community Affairs requires Whitfield County and the Cities of Cohutta, Dalton, Tunnel Hill and Varnell, Georgia to adopt a 10 year Solid Waste Management Plan Update by October 31, 2008 to be eligible to receive grants, loans, and permits related to solid waste management; and

**WHEREAS**, it is necessary to periodically update the Solid Waste Management Plan for Whitfield County and the Cities of Cohutta, Dalton, Tunnel Hill and Varnell, Georgia in order for it to remain a useful and viable tool for managing solid waste; and

**WHEREAS**, the Solid Waste Management Plan Update has been prepared by R. W. Beck, Inc. with assistance, input, and review by the Dalton-Whitfield Regional Solid Waste Management Authority and addresses waste disposal stream analysis, waste reduction, collection, disposal, land limitation, education and public involvement, and implementation; and

**WHEREAS**, the preparation of the Solid Waste Management Plan Update included the required official public hearings and interagency and intergovernmental coordination to assure that the views, opinions and attitudes of county and city residents, property owners, departments, and other agencies and governments were addressed; and

**WHEREAS**, the North Georgia Regional Development Center and the Georgia Department of Community Affairs have approved the 2008-2018 Solid Waste Management Plan Update as drafted.

**NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** by the Board of Commissioners of Whitfield County, Georgia and as follows:

**SECTION I.** The Solid Waste Management Plan Update as prepared by R. W. Beck, Inc. and approved by the North Georgia Regional Development Center and Georgia Department of Community Affairs is hereby adopted.

**SECTION II.** All Resolutions or parts of Resolutions in conflict herewith are hereby repealed.

**BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF WHITFIELD COUNTY, GEORGIA**

BY:  DATE: 10-13-08

ATTEST: Barbara Love DATE: 10-13-08

**A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE ADOPTION OF  
THE 2008-2018 SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT PLAN UPDATE**

**WHEREAS**, Whitfield County and the Cities of Cohutta, Dalton, Tunnel Hill and Varnell, Georgia are required by the 1990 Georgia Solid Waste Management Act to develop a Solid Waste Management Plan which meets the minimum standards for solid waste planning established pursuant to the Act; and

**WHEREAS**, the Department of Community Affairs requires Whitfield County and the Cities of Cohutta, Dalton, Tunnel Hill and Varnell, Georgia to adopt a 10 year Solid Waste Management Plan Update by October 31, 2008 to be eligible to receive grants, loans, and permits related to solid waste management; and

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**WHEREAS**, the Solid Waste Management Plan Update has been prepared by R. W. Beck, Inc. with assistance, input, and review by the Dalton-Whitfield Regional Solid Waste Management Authority and addresses waste disposal stream analysis, waste reduction, collection, disposal, land limitation, education and public involvement, and implementation; and

**WHEREAS**, the preparation of the Solid Waste Management Plan Update included the required official public hearings and interagency and intergovernmental coordination to assure that the views, opinions and attitudes of county and city residents, property owners, departments, and other agencies and governments were addressed; and

**WHEREAS**, the North Georgia Regional Development Center and the Georgia Department of Community Affairs have approved the 2008-2018 Solid Waste Management Plan Update as drafted.

**NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** by the Mayor and Council of the City of Dalton, Georgia and as follows:

**SECTION I.** The Solid Waste Management Plan Update as prepared by R. W. Beck, Inc. and approved by the North Georgia Regional Development Center and Georgia Department of Community Affairs is hereby adopted.

**SECTION II.** All Resolutions or parts of Resolutions in conflict herewith are hereby repealed.

**MAYOR AND COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF DALTON, GEORGIA**

BY: \_\_\_\_\_

DATE: \_\_\_\_\_

10-6-08

ATTEST: \_\_\_\_\_

DATE: \_\_\_\_\_

10-06-08

**A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE ADOPTION OF  
THE 2008-2018 SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT PLAN UPDATE**

**WHEREAS**, Whitfield County and the Cities of Cohutta, Dalton, Tunnel Hill and Varnell, Georgia are required by the 1990 Georgia Solid Waste Management Act to develop a Solid Waste Management Plan which meets the minimum standards for solid waste planning established pursuant to the Act; and

**WHEREAS**, the Department of Community Affairs requires Whitfield County and the Cities of Cohutta, Dalton, Tunnel Hill and Varnell, Georgia to adopt a 10 year Solid Waste Management Plan Update by October 31, 2008 to be eligible to receive grants, loans, and permits related to solid waste management; and

**WHEREAS**, it is necessary to periodically update the Solid Waste Management Plan for Whitfield County and the Cities of Cohutta, Dalton, Tunnel Hill and Varnell, Georgia in order for it to remain a useful and viable tool for managing solid waste; and

**WHEREAS**, the Solid Waste Management Plan Update has been prepared by R. W. Beck, Inc. with assistance, input, and review by the Dalton-Whitfield Regional Solid Waste Management Authority and addresses waste disposal stream analysis, waste reduction, collection, disposal, land limitation, education and public involvement, and implementation; and

**WHEREAS**, the preparation of the Solid Waste Management Plan Update included the required official public hearings and interagency and intergovernmental coordination to assure that the views, opinions and attitudes of county and city residents, property owners, departments, and other agencies and governments were addressed; and

**WHEREAS**, the North Georgia Regional Development Center and the Georgia Department of Community Affairs have approved the 2008-2018 Solid Waste Management Plan Update as drafted.

**NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** by the Mayor and Council of the City of Cohutta, Georgia and as follows:

**SECTION I.** The Solid Waste Management Plan Update as prepared by R. W. Beck, Inc. and approved by the North Georgia Regional Development Center and Georgia Department of Community Affairs is hereby adopted.

**SECTION II.** All Resolutions or parts of Resolutions in conflict herewith are hereby repealed.

**MAYOR AND COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF COHUTTA, GEORGIA**

BY: Don Henderson DATE: 10-7-08

ATTEST: Ben Mears DATE: 10/7/08

2008 -  
**A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE ADOPTION OF  
THE 2008-2018 SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT PLAN UPDATE**

**WHEREAS**, Whitfield County and the Cities of Cohutta, Dalton, Tunnel Hill and Varnell, Georgia are required by the 1990 Georgia Solid Waste Management Act to develop a Solid Waste Management Plan which meets the minimum standards for solid waste planning established pursuant to the Act; and

**WHEREAS**, the Department of Community Affairs requires Whitfield County and the Cities of Cohutta, Dalton, Tunnel Hill and Varnell, Georgia to adopt a 10 year Solid Waste Management Plan Update by October 31, 2008 to be eligible to receive grants, loans, and permits related to solid waste management; and

**WHEREAS**, it is necessary to periodically update the Solid Waste Management Plan for Whitfield County and the Cities of Cohutta, Dalton, Tunnel Hill and Varnell, Georgia in order for it to remain a useful and viable tool for managing solid waste; and

**WHEREAS**, the Solid Waste Management Plan Update has been prepared by R. W. Beck, Inc. with assistance, input, and review by the Dalton-Whitfield Regional Solid Waste Management Authority and addresses waste disposal stream analysis, waste reduction, collection, disposal, land limitation, education and public involvement, and implementation; and

**WHEREAS**, the preparation of the Solid Waste Management Plan Update included the required official public hearings and interagency and intergovernmental coordination to assure that the views, opinions and attitudes of county and city residents, property owners, departments, and other agencies and governments were addressed; and

**WHEREAS**, the North Georgia Regional Development Center and the Georgia Department of Community Affairs have approved the 2008-2018 Solid Waste Management Plan Update as drafted.

**NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** by the Mayor and Council of the City of Tunnel Hill, Georgia and as follows:

**SECTION I.** The Solid Waste Management Plan Update as prepared by R. W. Beck, Inc. and approved by the North Georgia Regional Development Center and Georgia Department of Community Affairs is hereby adopted.

**SECTION II.** All Resolutions or parts of Resolutions in conflict herewith are hereby repealed.

**MAYOR AND COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TUNNEL HILL, GEORGIA**

BY: Kenneth L. L. DATE: 10-15-08

ATTEST:

[Signature]



DATE: 10-15-08

RECEIVED

SEP 26 2008

**A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE ADOPTION OF  
THE 2008-2018 SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT PLAN UPDATE**

**WHEREAS**, Whitfield County and the Cities of Cohutta, Dalton, Tunnel Hill and Varnell, Georgia are required by the 1990 Georgia Solid Waste Management Act to develop a Solid Waste Management Plan which meets the minimum standards for solid waste planning established pursuant to the Act; and

**WHEREAS**, the Department of Community Affairs requires Whitfield County and the Cities of Cohutta, Dalton, Tunnel Hill and Varnell, Georgia to adopt a 10 year Solid Waste Management Plan Update by October 31, 2008 to be eligible to receive grants, loans, and permits related to solid waste management; and

**WHEREAS**, it is necessary to periodically update the Solid Waste Management Plan for Whitfield County and the Cities of Cohutta, Dalton, Tunnel Hill and Varnell, Georgia in order for it to remain a useful and viable tool for managing solid waste; and

**WHEREAS**, the Solid Waste Management Plan Update has been prepared by R. W. Beck, Inc. with assistance, input, and review by the Dalton-Whitfield Regional Solid Waste Management Authority and addresses waste disposal stream analysis, waste reduction, collection, disposal, land limitation, education and public involvement, and implementation; and

**WHEREAS**, the preparation of the Solid Waste Management Plan Update included the required official public hearings and interagency and intergovernmental coordination to assure that the views, opinions and attitudes of county and city residents, property owners, departments, and other agencies and governments were addressed; and

**WHEREAS**, the North Georgia Regional Development Center and the Georgia Department of Community Affairs have approved the 2008-2018 Solid Waste Management Plan Update as drafted.

**NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** by the Mayor and Council of the City of Varnell, Georgia and as follows:

**SECTION I.** The Solid Waste Management Plan Update as prepared by R. W. Beck, Inc. and approved by the North Georgia Regional Development Center and Georgia Department of Community Affairs is hereby adopted.

**SECTION II.** All Resolutions or parts of Resolutions in conflict herewith are hereby repealed.

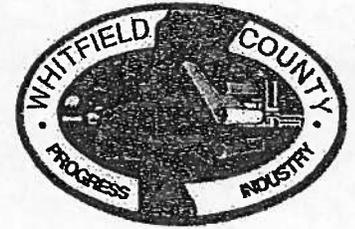
**MAYOR AND COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF VARNELL, GEORGIA**



*David Owens* DATE: 9-22-08

*Mayor Pro Tem*

*Jim Garrison* DATE: 9-22-08



**A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE ADOPTION OF  
THE 2008-2018 SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT PLAN UPDATE AND  
RECOMMENDING THAT LOCAL GOVERNMENTS WITHIN WHITFIELD COUNTY  
ADOPT THE 2008-2018 SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT PLAN UPDATE**

**WHEREAS**, Whitfield County and the Cities of Cohutta, Dalton, Tunnel Hill and Varnell, Georgia are required by the 1990 Georgia Solid Waste Management Act to develop a Solid Waste Management Plan which meets the minimum standards for solid waste planning established pursuant to the Act; and

**WHEREAS**, the Department of Community Affairs requires Whitfield County and the Cities of Cohutta, Dalton, Tunnel Hill and Varnell, Georgia to adopt a 10 year Solid Waste Management Plan Update by October 31, 2008 to be eligible to receive grants, loans, and permits related to solid waste management; and

**WHEREAS**, it is necessary to periodically update the Solid Waste Management Plan for Whitfield County and the Cities of Cohutta, Dalton, Tunnel Hill and Varnell, Georgia in order for it to remain a useful and viable tool for managing solid waste; and

**WHEREAS**, the Solid Waste Management Plan Update has been prepared by R. W. Beck, Inc. with assistance, input, and review by the Dalton-Whitfield Regional Solid Waste Management Authority and addresses waste disposal stream analysis, waste reduction, collection, disposal, land limitation, education and public involvement, and implementation; and

**WHEREAS**, the preparation of the Solid Waste Management Plan Update included the required official public hearings and interagency and intergovernmental coordination to assure that the views, opinions and attitudes of county and city residents, property owners, departments, and other agencies and governments were addressed; and

**WHEREAS**, the North Georgia Regional Development Center and the Georgia Department of Community Affairs have approved the 2008-2018 Solid Waste Management Plan Update as drafted.

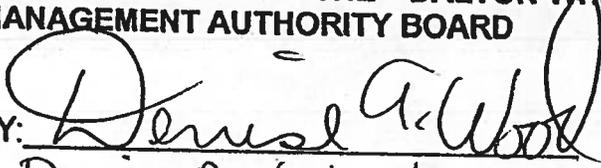
**NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** by the Board of the Dalton-Whitfield Regional Solid Waste Management Authority and as follows:

**SECTION I.** The Solid Waste Management Plan Update as prepared by R. W. Beck, Inc. and approved by the North Georgia Regional Development Center and Georgia Department of Community Affairs is hereby adopted.

**SECTION II.** The Dalton-Whitfield Regional Solid Waste Management Authority recommends that Whitfield County and the Cities of Cohutta, Dalton, Tunnel Hill, and Varnell adopt the 2008-2018 Solid Waste Management Plan Update as prepared by R. W. Beck, Inc. and approved by the North Georgia Regional Development Center and Georgia Department of Community Affairs.

**SECTION III.** All Resolutions or parts of Resolutions in conflict herewith are hereby repealed.

**CHAIRPERSON OF THE DALTON-WHITFIELD REGIONAL SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT AUTHORITY BOARD**

BY:   
Denise A. Wood

DATE: 9-19-08

ATTEST: 

DATE: 9/19/08

**A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE SUBMITTAL OF  
THE SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT PLAN UPDATE TO THE NORTH GEORGIA  
REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT CENTER AND THE GEORGIA DEPARTMENT OF  
COMMUNITY AFFAIRS FOR REVIEW**

**WHEREAS**, Whitfield County and the cities of Cohutta, Dalton, Tunnel Hill and Varnell, Georgia are required by the 1990 Georgia Solid Waste Management Act to develop a Solid Waste Management Plan which meets the minimum standards for solid waste planning established pursuant to the Act; and

**WHEREAS**, the Department of Community Affairs requires Whitfield County and the cities of Cohutta, Dalton, Tunnel Hill and Varnell, Georgia to adopt a 10 year Solid Waste Management Plan Update by October 31, 2008 to be eligible to receive grants, loans, and permits related to solid waste management; and

**WHEREAS**, it is necessary to periodically update the Solid Waste Management Plan for Whitfield County and the cities of Cohutta, Dalton, Tunnel Hill and Varnell, Georgia in order for it to remain a useful and viable tool for managing solid waste; and

**WHEREAS**, the Solid Waste Management Plan Update has been prepared by R. W. Beck, Inc. with assistance, input, and review by the Dalton-Whitfield Regional Solid Waste Management Authority and addresses waste disposal stream analysis, waste reduction, collection, disposal, land limitation, education and public involvement, and implementation; and

**WHEREAS**, the preparation of the Solid Waste Management Plan Update included the required official public hearings and interagency and intergovernmental coordination to assure that the views, opinions and attitudes of county and city residents, property owners, departments, and other agencies and governments were addressed.

**NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** by the Board of Commissioners of Whitfield County, Georgia and as follows:

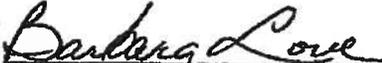
**SECTION I.** The Solid Waste Management Plan Update as prepared by R. W. Beck, Inc. is hereby approved for submittal to the North Georgia Regional Development Center and the Georgia Department of Community Affairs for review.

**SECTION II.** All Resolutions or parts of Resolutions in conflict herewith are hereby repealed.

**BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF WHITFIELD COUNTY, GEORGIA**

BY:  DATE: 3/10/08

ATTEST:

 DATE: 3/10/08

**A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE SUBMITTAL OF  
THE SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT PLAN UPDATE TO THE NORTH GEORGIA  
REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT CENTER AND THE GEORGIA DEPARTMENT OF  
COMMUNITY AFFAIRS FOR REVIEW**

WHEREAS, Whitfield County and the cities of Cohutta, Dalton, Tunnel Hill and Varnell, Georgia are required by the 1990 Georgia Solid Waste Management Act to develop a Solid Waste Management Plan which meets the minimum standards for solid waste planning established pursuant to the Act; and

WHEREAS, the Department of Community Affairs requires Whitfield County and the cities of Cohutta, Dalton, Tunnel Hill and Varnell, Georgia to adopt a 10 year Solid Waste Management Plan Update by October 31, 2008 to be eligible to receive grants, loans, and permits related to solid waste management; and

WHEREAS, it is necessary to periodically update the Solid Waste Management Plan for Whitfield County and the cities of Cohutta, Dalton, Tunnel Hill and Varnell, Georgia in order for it to remain a useful and viable tool for managing solid waste; and

WHEREAS, the Solid Waste Management Plan Update has been prepared by R. W. Beck, Inc. with assistance, input, and review by the Dalton-Whitfield Regional Solid Waste Management Authority and addresses waste disposal stream analysis, waste reduction, collection, disposal, land limitation, education and public involvement, and implementation; and

WHEREAS, the preparation of the Solid Waste Management Plan Update included the required official public hearings and interagency and intergovernmental coordination to assure that the views, opinions and attitudes of county and city residents, property owners, departments, and other agencies and governments were addressed.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Mayor and Council of the City of Dalton, Georgia and as follows:

**SECTION I.** The Solid Waste Management Plan Update as prepared by R. W. Beck, Inc. is hereby approved for submittal to the North Georgia Regional Development Center and the Georgia Department of Community Affairs for review.

**SECTION II.** All Resolutions or parts of Resolutions in conflict herewith are hereby repealed.

**MAYOR AND COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF DALTON, GEORGIA**

BY: \_\_\_\_\_

DATE: 3-18-2008

ATTEST: \_\_\_\_\_

DATE: 3-18-2008

**A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE SUBMITTAL OF  
THE SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT PLAN UPDATE TO THE NORTH GEORGIA  
REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT CENTER AND THE GEORGIA DEPARTMENT OF  
COMMUNITY AFFAIRS FOR REVIEW**

WHEREAS, Whitfield County and the cities of Cohutta, Dalton, Tunnel Hill and Varnell, Georgia are required by the 1990 Georgia Solid Waste Management Act to develop a Solid Waste Management Plan which meets the minimum standards for solid waste planning established pursuant to the Act; and

WHEREAS, the Department of Community Affairs requires Whitfield County and the cities of Cohutta, Dalton, Tunnel Hill and Varnell, Georgia to adopt a 10 year Solid Waste Management Plan Update by October 31, 2008 to be eligible to receive grants, loans, and permits related to solid waste management; and

WHEREAS, it is necessary to periodically update the Solid Waste Management Plan for Whitfield County and the cities of Cohutta, Dalton, Tunnel Hill and Varnell, Georgia in order for it to remain a useful and viable tool for managing solid waste; and

WHEREAS, the Solid Waste Management Plan Update has been prepared by R. W. Beck, Inc. with assistance, input, and review by the Dalton-Whitfield Regional Solid Waste Management Authority and addresses waste disposal stream analysis, waste reduction, collection, disposal, land limitation, education and public involvement, and implementation; and

WHEREAS, the preparation of the Solid Waste Management Plan Update included the required official public hearings and interagency and intergovernmental coordination to assure that the views, opinions and attitudes of county and city residents, property owners, departments, and other agencies and governments were addressed.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Mayor and Council of the City of Cohutta, Georgia and as follows:

**SECTION I.** The Solid Waste Management Plan Update as prepared by R. W. Beck, Inc. is hereby approved for submittal to the North Georgia Regional Development Center and the Georgia Department of Community Affairs for review.

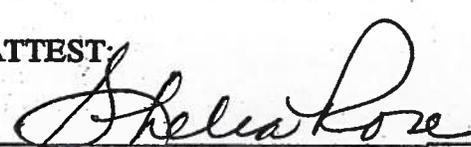
**SECTION II.** All Resolutions or parts of Resolutions in conflict herewith are hereby repealed.

**MAYOR AND COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF COHUTTA, GEORGIA**

BY: 

DATE: 4-1-08

ATTEST:



DATE: 4-1-08

**A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE SUBMITTAL OF  
THE SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT PLAN UPDATE TO THE NORTH GEORGIA  
REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT CENTER AND THE GEORGIA DEPARTMENT OF  
COMMUNITY AFFAIRS FOR REVIEW**

**WHEREAS**, Whitfield County and the cities of Cohutta, Dalton, Tunnel Hill and Varnell, Georgia are required by the 1990 Georgia Solid Waste Management Act to develop a Solid Waste Management Plan which meets the minimum standards for solid waste planning established pursuant to the Act; and

**WHEREAS**, the Department of Community Affairs requires Whitfield County and the cities of Cohutta, Dalton, Tunnel Hill and Varnell, Georgia to adopt a 10 year Solid Waste Management Plan Update by October 31, 2008 to be eligible to receive grants, loans, and permits related to solid waste management; and

**WHEREAS**, it is necessary to periodically update the Solid Waste Management Plan for Whitfield County and the cities of Cohutta, Dalton, Tunnel Hill and Varnell, Georgia in order for it to remain a useful and viable tool for managing solid waste; and

**WHEREAS**, the Solid Waste Management Plan Update has been prepared by R. W. Beck, Inc. with assistance, input, and review by the Dalton-Whitfield Regional Solid Waste Management Authority and addresses waste disposal stream analysis, waste reduction, collection, disposal, land limitation, education and public involvement, and implementation; and

**WHEREAS**, the preparation of the Solid Waste Management Plan Update included the required official public hearings and interagency and intergovernmental coordination to assure that the views, opinions and attitudes of county and city residents, property owners, departments, and other agencies and governments were addressed.

**NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** by the Mayor and Council of the City of Varnell, Georgia and as follows:

**SECTION I.** The Solid Waste Management Plan Update as prepared by R. W. Beck, Inc. is hereby approved for submittal to the North Georgia Regional Development Center and the Georgia Department of Community Affairs for review.

**SECTION II.** All Resolutions or parts of Resolutions in conflict herewith are hereby repealed.

**MAYOR AND COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF VARNELL, GEORGIA**

BY: *David W. Beck*

DATE: 04-15-2008

ATTEST:

*Michelle Ray*

DATE: 04-15-2008

**A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE SUBMITTAL OF THE SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT PLAN UPDATE TO THE NORTH GEORGIA REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT CENTER AND THE GEORGIA DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNITY AFFAIRS FOR REVIEW**

**WHEREAS**, Whitfield County and the cities of Cohutta, Dalton, Tunnel Hill and Varnell, Georgia are required by the 1990 Georgia Solid Waste Management Act to develop a Solid Waste Management Plan which meets the minimum standards for solid waste planning established pursuant to the Act; and

**WHEREAS**, the Department of Community Affairs requires Whitfield County and the cities of Cohutta, Dalton, Tunnel Hill and Varnell, Georgia to adopt a 10 year Solid Waste Management Plan Update by October 31, 2008 to be eligible to receive grants, loans, and permits related to solid waste management; and

**WHEREAS**, it is necessary to periodically update the Solid Waste Management Plan for Whitfield County and the cities of Cohutta, Dalton, Tunnel Hill and Varnell, Georgia in order for it to remain a useful and viable tool for managing solid waste; and

**WHEREAS**, the Solid Waste Management Plan Update has been prepared by R. W. Beck, Inc. with assistance, input, and review by the Dalton-Whitfield Regional Solid Waste Management Authority and addresses waste disposal stream analysis, waste reduction, collection, disposal, land limitation, education and public involvement, and implementation; and

**WHEREAS**, the preparation of the Solid Waste Management Plan Update included the required official public hearings and interagency and intergovernmental coordination to assure that the views, opinions and attitudes of county and city residents, property owners, departments, and other agencies and governments were addressed.

**NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** by the Mayor and Council of the City of Tunnel Hill, Georgia and as follows:

**SECTION I.** The Solid Waste Management Plan Update as prepared by R. W. Beck, Inc. is hereby approved for submittal to the North Georgia Regional Development Center and the Georgia Department of Community Affairs for review.

**SECTION II.** All Resolutions or parts of Resolutions in conflict herewith are hereby repealed.

**MAYOR AND COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TUNNEL HILL, GEORGIA**

BY: Kenneth E. Do DATE: 3/25/08

ATTEST: [Signature] DATE: 3/25/08



Sonny Perdue  
Governor



Georgia™  
Department of  
Community Affairs

Mike Beatty  
Commissioner

October 31, 2008

Honorable Brian Anderson  
Chairman, Whitfield County Commission  
Post Office Box 248  
Dalton, Georgia 30722-0248

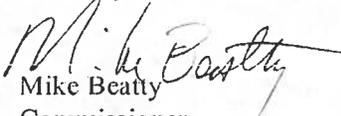
Dear Chairman Anderson:

We have received notification that Whitfield County and the Cities of Dalton, Cohutta, Varnell and Tunnel Hill have adopted the 2008 - 2018 Solid Waste Management Plan that meets the Minimum Planning Standards and Procedures for Solid Waste Management. Accordingly, it is my pleasure to notify you that Whitfield County and the Cities of Dalton, Cohutta, Varnell and Tunnel Hill remain eligible for solid waste permits, grants and loans.

As you have experienced, in addition to proper and thorough long-range planning, effective solid waste management requires the ability to adapt when circumstances indicate that such action is necessary. Through continued review, and revision when necessary, solid waste planning provides your local government with more control over its destiny and assists you in dealing more effectively with both short-term and long-term management decisions.

We commend you for your hard work and dedication. If you have any questions regarding your solid waste management plan, please call Jennifer Szabo in our Office of Environmental Management at (404) 679-0567.

Sincerely,



Mike Beatty  
Commissioner

MB/js

cc: Barry Tarter, Executive Director, North Georgia RDC



60 Executive Park South, N.E. • Atlanta, Georgia 30329-2231 • 404-679-4940

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**NORTH GEORGIA REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT CENTER**  
FANNIN GILMER MURRAY PICKENS WITFIELD

OCT 24 '08 PM 3:22

October 22, 2008

Jennifer Szabo  
Georgia Department of Community Affairs  
60 Executive Park South, NE  
Atlanta, Georgia 30329-2231

Dear Jennifer:

Enclosed are the copies of the Solid Waste Management Plan for Whitfield County and Cities of Dalton, Tunnel Hill, Varnell and Cohutta as well as the adoption resolutions.

Sincerely,

Larry Vanden Bosch, AICP  
Director, Community and Economic Development Services

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Enclosure



October 21, 2008

DCT 24 '08 PM 3:22

Mr. Larry Vanden Bosch  
North Georgia RDC  
503 West Waugh Street  
Dalton, GA 30720

**SUBJECT: "Adopted" Solid Waste Management Plan Update**  
Prepared For: Whitfield County and the Cities of Cohutta, Dalton, Tunnel Hill, and Varnell  
Prepared By: Dalton-Whitfield Regional Solid Waste Management Authority

Dear Larry,

Enclosed please find two copies of the "adopted" solid waste management plan. Also included are two copies of the electronic version of the document on two CDs. Also included are copies of the local government's resolutions adopting the plan as well as a copy of the Authority's resolution adopting the plan. The enclosed documents should complete the process to provide the RDC and the DCA with the necessary information to recertify that our local governments have fulfilled the requirement to update the Solid Waste Management Plan for the planning period 2008 thru 2018.

If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to call me or our consultant Abby Goldsmith with R.W. Beck at 404/870-9098.

Sincerely,

Norman Barashick  
Executive Director

Enclosures (6)

Cc: Abby Goldsmith

Department of  
**Community Affairs**

September 10, 2008

Mr. Barry L. Tarter  
Executive Director, North Georgia RDC  
503 West Waugh Street  
Dalton, Georgia 30720

Dear Mr. Tarter:

Our staff has reviewed the revised information for the 2008 – 2018 Solid Waste Management Plan for Whitfield County and the Cities of Dalton, Cohutta, Varnell and Tunnel Hill. The revisions have brought the plan into compliance with the Minimum Planning Standards and Procedures for Solid Waste Management. To maintain eligibility for solid waste permits, grants, and loans, Whitfield County and the Cities of Dalton, Cohutta, Varnell and Tunnel Hill must adopt the 2008– 2018 Solid Waste Management Plan as soon as possible.

In order to complete the planning cycle, please forward a copy of the adoption resolutions along with a copy of the revised adopted Solid Waste Management Plan to our office. Once we receive these documents, we will send notification to Whitfield County and the Cities of Dalton, Cohutta, Varnell and Tunnel Hill of their renewed eligibility for solid waste grants, loans, and permits.

Sincerely,



Mike Gleaton, Assistant Commissioner  
Planning and Environmental Management Division

MG/js



RECEIVED

MAY 01 2008



**NORTH GEORGIA REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT CENTER**  
FANNIN GILMER MURRAY PICKENS WHITFIELD

**MEMORANDUM**

TO: Local Governments, State Agencies and Other Interested Parties

FROM: Larry Vanden Bosch, AICP *Larry VB*  
Director, Community and Economic Development Services

DATE: April 29, 2008

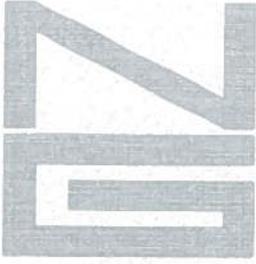
SUBJECT: Whitfield County Solid Waste Management Plan Update

This is to inform you that Whitfield County and the Cities of Dalton, Cohutta, Varnell and Tunnel Hill have completed an update of its Solid Waste Management Plan.

You are hereby afforded an opportunity to review and comment on this document. Please find enclosed notification of plan submittal with a general description of submitted document. These documents can be found at the North Georgia Regional Development Center's website: [www.ngrdc.org](http://www.ngrdc.org).

The North Georgia Regional Development Center will conduct a hearing on the submitted documents on May 19, 2008 at 3:30 PM at the RDC office in Dalton, Georgia. Written and oral comments may be presented at the hearing. Written comments will also be accepted by mail or email until 5 PM on May 19, 2008.

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**NORTH GEORGIA REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT CENTER**  
FANNIN GILMER MURRAY PICKENS WHITFIELD

May 21, 2008

Mr. Randy Hartmann, Director  
Office of Environmental Management  
Georgia Department of Community Affairs  
60 Executive Park South, N.E.  
Atlanta, GA 30329-2231

Re: Solid Waste Management Plan Update  
For Whitfield County, Dalton, Cohutta, Tunnel Hill and Varnell

Dear Mr. Hartmann:

The above Plan is hereby submitted to the Department of Community Affairs for review as required by the minimum planning requirements. A staff member, who left our employment spontaneously, may have failed to forward a copy of the above plan during the ten (10) day period after we received the transmittal resolutions from the participating local governments. We have only learned that fact in the last few days.

The regional review hearing was pre-scheduled prior to the departure of the staff member, so that hearing was held on Monday, May 19, 2008. Just so that you are aware, we did not have anyone to attend the public hearing or to submit any comments regarding the contents of the plan proposal.

I hope you will find everything in order on this Plan and we look forward to receiving your comments. Please call me at 706-272-2300 if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

Larry Vanden Bosch, AICP  
Director, Community and Economic Development

th

cc: Copy by Fed Ex  
File